

AMMAN (R) — Pope John Paul II, in a message marking New Year Day, has renewed the Catholic Church's commitment to the cause of world peace. In his message, a copy of which was released here on Tuesday, the Pope said: "On the occasion of this 19th World Day of Peace in the International Year of Peace proclaimed by the United Nations Organisation, I offer to everyone a message of hope and profound conviction: 'Peace is a value with no frontiers. It is a value that responds to the hopes and aspirations of all people and all nations. The question of peace as a universal value needs to be faced with extreme intellectual honesty, sincerity of spirit and an acute sense of responsibility. I would ask those responsible for political decisions to be convinced that there can be only one peace. Those upon whom the future of the world depends, are all called to help construct a single peace on the basis of social justice and the dignity and rights of every human person.'"

# Jordan Times

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Happy New Year

The Jordan Times will not be published on Thursday/Friday, Jan. 2/3, 1986, due to the New Year Day holiday. The next issue of the newspaper will appear on Saturday, Jan. 4. We wish our readers and advertisers a most happy and prosperous new year.

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## Crown Prince leaves for Vienna

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan left for Vienna on Tuesday on a private visit. He was seen off by His Majesty King Hussein and senior officials.

## Bomb defused in Jerusalem

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israeli police said they safely dismantled a pipe bomb on Tuesday at a bus stop outside the Jerusalem railway station. Much traffic from Arab East Jerusalem to the occupied West Bank towns of Hebron and Bethlehem goes past the station.

## Greece to free detained suspects

ATHENS (R) — The Greek government said on Tuesday it was releasing seven Palestinians held for questioning following the bloody attacks at Rome and Vienna airports last Friday after no evidence was found to indicate they were involved. "There is no evidence that they are involved in any way with terrorist activities and they will be released tomorrow," a government spokesman said. The seven were among 15 Palestinians whom Greece arrested in Athens immediately after the attacks in Rome and Vienna. The other eight were released soon after they were detained.

## Cairo protests at Kuwaiti statement

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt accused Kuwait on Tuesday of interfering in its domestic affairs by calling for release of an Egyptian policeman convicted of killing seven Israelis. An unnamed government official made the charge in a statement distributed by the Middle East News Agency (MENA). A military court on Saturday sentenced border police Sgt. Suleiman Khater to life imprisonment at hard labour for the fatal shooting last Oct. 5, Kuwait's National Assembly issued a statement Saturday night hailing Khater as a "hero" who restored dignity to the Arab people and saying that Egypt, by punishing him, was "extending to Israel a dear prize for the new year." The Egyptian official quoted by MENA said the statement was "interference in Egypt's domestic affairs and an excess that breaches the close relations between the two countries."

## 'Arabsat fails to function'

RIYADH (R) — Arabsat-1, the Arab World's first communications satellite launched in February, has failed to function and the man in charge of the project has been fired, a Saudi Arabian newspaper reported on Tuesday. Al Sharq Al Awsat said a committee of six communications ministers, meeting earlier this month, dismissed Ali Al Mashat, Iraq director-general of the Arabsat project, for financial, administrative and technical inefficiencies. His job was now open and any Arab could apply for it, the newspaper said, quoting a "responsible source" at Arabsat.

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# King returns after extensive talks with Syrian president

Masri describes summit outcome as 'very successful'

By Lamb K. Andoni  
in Damascus

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein returned home on Tuesday after a two-day visit to Syria during which he held extensive talks with President Hafez Al Assad which were described by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri as "highly successful."

The King held two rounds of private talks with President Assad in addition to formal talks attended by senior officials from both sides. Secrecy shrouded the outcome of the talks and officials from both sides refrained from giving any details of the discussions but Mr. Masri, in a departure statement in Damascus, said the talks were "very successful" and the results of the summit meeting will be announced at a later date.

Reliable sources in Damascus said the talks focused on the Syrian and Jordanian positions on

current efforts for peace in the Middle East. Both sides were trying to come out with a common position on the current political situation in the region, the sources said.

Both Jordan and Syria are committed to the idea of an international conference on the Middle East as expressed in joint statements issued in November and December at the end of visits to each other's capitals by the prime ministers of the two countries. The sources in Damascus said Syria wanted guarantees that such a conference would definitely

lead to a total Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights.

Also there was no indication that Syria was changing its stand against the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) under Chairman Yasser Arafat.

"Syria is still determined not to deal with a PLO headed by Arafat," the sources said. Syria would accept to deal with the PLO if Mr. Arafat is replaced by another "acceptable" Palestinian figure, the sources added. The "acceptable" leader, according to the sources, could be Farouk Kadoumi, head of the PLO's Political Department.

Other issues of differences between Jordan and Syria are the Kingdom's support for Iraq in the five-year-old Gulf war and Jordan's relations with Egypt. But the sources said Jordanian-Egyptian relations were not a major obstacle to the progress of Syrian-Jordanian relations "as long as Jordan is committed to the rejection of all unilateral or partial

solutions to the Palestinian problem and separate deals with Israel."

As for Jordan's support for Iraq in its war against Iran the sources expected the issue to have been discussed during the talks particularly that Syria recently reiterated its support of Iraq. But, according to Jordanian sources, Jordan hopes that the recent improvement of relations between the Soviet Union and Iraq would help in settling Iraqi-Syrian differences and enhance efforts to end the Gulf war.

But the talks seem to have achieved considerable progress in bridging the difference between the two countries and well-informed sources here said that Syria was very pleased with Jordan's support of Syrian policy in Lebanon and for the Damascus accord reached here among the three major Lebanese factions last Saturday. The Syrian media refrained from publishing or broadcasting any commentaries or

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## Joint Israeli-SLA assaults force hundreds to flee S. Lebanon

BEIRUT (AP) — Scores of families have fled their homes in South Lebanon after Israeli troops and their militia allies stormed a village, inside Israel's self-proclaimed "security zone," press reports and witnesses said Tuesday.

Beirut's An-Nahar newspaper said about 2,000 villagers had been driven out hours after the raid on Monday.

It said Israeli troops and their allies of the South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia stormed Kounin, 10 kilometres north of the Israeli border, arrested 30 men and began blowing up houses. An Nahar said it was "the worst storming raid" since Israel pulled out the bulk of its army from South Lebanon after a three-year occupation.

The raid on Kounin followed an attack by Lebanese commandos against a joint Israeli army-SLA outpost in the nearby village of Beit Yahoun, about eight kilometres north of the border.

Lebanese press reports said four SLA militiamen were killed and several others, including two

Israeli soldiers, were wounded during the attack by guerrillas of the "Islamic Resistance Movement."

Israeli military sources said two SLA militiamen were killed and one Israeli soldier was slightly wounded when the commandos opened fire with machineguns and two anti-tank rockets travelling on a car.

The sources said an armoured vehicle sent to evacuate the casualties then hit a landmine, wounding four SLA militia riding inside.

An Nahar said scores of villagers from Kounin were arriving in droves into nearby Tibnine.

Reporters in the southern port city of Tyre said at least 80 families had arrived there by Tuesday morning.

They quoted several refugees as saying Israeli soldiers and SLA militiamen ordered them through bulldozers to leave their homes immediately "or the roofs of our houses will fall upon us."

The refugees said the raiders then launched a house-to-house

search and ordered them to leave the village.

The raid came amid a increasing hostilities between the Israeli-backed SLA and fighters of the "Popular Liberation Army" east of Sidon.

Both sides have engaged in light and heavy artillery duels since Israeli-allied gunmen were driven out from a string of villages near Sidon in a major PLA offensive last spring.

PLA positions have been increasingly coming under fire from SLA gunners entrenched in the hills overlooking Sidon and the mountain town of Jezzine, the main SLA stronghold in South Lebanon.

PLA commander Ousama Sa'ad said one civilian was killed when the village of Majdelloun came under heavy artillery fire Monday.

He described the intensification of SLA shelling as "a manoeuvre to sabotage" the recent Syrian-sponsored armistice signed by civil war antagonists in Damascus on Saturday.

## Kuwait detains 2 Lebanese on sabotage charge

KUWAIT (AP) — Kuwaiti security forces have arrested two Lebanese nationals on charges of conspiring to sabotage vital economic installations in Kuwait, a parliament official announced on Tuesday.

Monzaif Al Anezi, head of the interior and defence committee at the National Assembly (parliament), said that the two Lebanese were arrested last week.

Mr. Anezi said Interior Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmad briefed parliament on investigations in the case.

Mr. Anezi said that the two Lebanese were apprehended at a flat in Al Fintas residential suburb of Kuwait City.

He told reporters that documents and equipment found in the flat showed that the two were planning to blow up the Doha water desalination and power stations 25 kilometres north of Kuwait.

## 'Lebanese Forces' official escapes assassination bid

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Assad Shafar, a senior rightist militia official who negotiated a newly concluded armistice agreement to end Lebanon's civil war, survived an assassination attempt in mainly Christian east Beirut on Tuesday, the militia command announced.

A communiqué from the "Lebanese Forces" militia said ambushers fired rocket-propelled grenades (RPG) at Mr. Shafar's motorcade drove through the coastal highway in upper Jdeidet Al Metn on Beirut's northern edge at 10 a.m.

Two RPGs slammed into the rear of the car, killing one of Mr. Shafar's bodyguards and wounding another, but he survived unharmed, the communiqué said.

Other guards in the motorcade then engaged the ambushers in a firefight in which an undetermined number of the assailants were gunned down, the communiqué added.

The communiqué gave no further details and made no reference to the political identity of the ambushers.

Radio stations in west Beirut earlier said President Amin Gemayel was the target of the assassination attempt.

The Voice of the Nation privately-owned radio station said presidential bodyguards rushed to the ambush scene in two cars that usually escort Mr. Gemayel's motorcade whenever he travels in the Metn province.

The radio said the presidential bodyguards wanted to find out what was happening during the attempt on Mr. Shafar's life.

Their presence touched off reports that the president was targeted, the radio said.

The assassination attempt came only three days after warring militias signed a Syrian-brokered peace accord in Damascus.

The pact, signed by "Lebanese Forces" leader Elie Hobeika, Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) chief Walid Junblatt and Shiite Muslim militia leader Nabih Berri, was meant to end 10 years of conflict that has cost more than 100,000 lives.

In South Lebanon, tension also mounted as Israeli troops and their militia allies expelled about 400 people from Kounin village in a border security strip.

## Arafat reaffirms commitment to Feb. 11 agreement

AMMAN (J.T.) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat has reaffirmed his commitment to the Feb. 11 accord between Jordan and the PLO and said he welcomed a greater role for Egypt in the Middle East and Arab affairs.

In a statement issued in Tunis, a copy of which was released in Amman, to mark the 21st anniversary of the PLO, Mr. Arafat said the PLO was doing all it can for a solution to the Palestinian problem.

"We in PLO are aware of the dangerous situation in the region and will do all that we can to mend our bridges with the Arab World," he said. "We, therefore, undertook joint steps with Jordan to implement the Fez Arab resolutions acting on the basis of our Feb. 11 agreement signed in Amman."

"We have already made some positive steps in that direction and at all levels though we are aware of the U.S.-Zionist opposition to this accord and to our joint action. But we are determined to carry on the work with the Jordanian side to overcome all obstacles and difficulties in our way."

"I would like to underline the fact that the Amman accord serves as a basis for a wider Arab accord. We have emphasised this fact at the Casablanca summit. The Casablanca summit has welcomed the joint Jordan-PLO action and all the resolutions passed at that summit reaffirmed the need for joint Arab action for resolving the Palestine problem and also reiterated support for the PLO as sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and stressed the Arab Nation's call for an international conference to be held under the U.N. auspices in which all concerned parties should be represented."

"We in the PLO are also concerned with the Iran-Iraq war and will exert our efforts to stop that conflict and to restore peace to Gulf region," Mr. Arafat said. "We are doing our utmost to stop that war because not only are the Iranian and Iraqi people suffering from it but also because the Palestine cause stands to suffer as well."

"We extend our appreciation and greetings to Arab countries now hosting PLO fighters like Jordan, Egypt, Lebanon, Yemen, Sudan, Algeria, Tunisia and Iraq. At this minute they too are facing Israeli threats supported by the U.S. in a manner that exposes collusion between the two allies in

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Syrian President Hafez Al Assad bids farewell Tuesday to His Majesty King Hussein at the end of their two day summit meeting in Damascus (Petra photo)

## Tension goes up after U.S. nods in favour of Israeli 'retaliation'

HIGH TENSION prevailed in the Middle East on Tuesday after the U.S. virtually gave Israel a go-ahead to retaliate for last Friday's Rome and Vienna attacks and the Jewish state kept the world guessing about when and where it will carry out its "revenge" for the assaults.

Egypt said any Israeli retaliation could halt the Middle East peace process and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) accused unnamed Arab states of masterminding the attacks at Rome and Vienna airports in which 18 people were killed and over 115 people injured.

Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres called for international sanctions against Libya and vowed again that Israel will strike against terrorism "whenever, wherever and however" it sees fit.

Peres did not directly blame Libya for being behind the attacks at Israel's El Al airline counters in Rome and Vienna, but he said, "if it is true that Abu Nidal is behind this act, we know that he is in Libya, and also that Libya celebrated" the attacks.

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, meanwhile, sent a cable to

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz commending U.S. statements Monday which supported "measured, focused" retaliation for the airport assaults.

Israeli officials have said they are inclined to believe a claim of responsibility from the Libyan-backed dissident Palestinian group led by Abu Nidal.

Libya called the attacks "heroic." But analysts have said a strike against Abu Nidal will be difficult because the group operates from small, scattered bases.

Peres, speaking to some 800 high school students, called Libya "a wicked country full of murder at whose head stands a man who does not hesitate to murder his opponents in cold blood."

While the Reagan administration gave Israel a go-ahead to retaliate for the attacks, providing it is done in a measured and careful way, it is also retaining its own right to launch a military response and is holding Libya responsible for supporting guerrillas led by Abu Nidal.

U.S. officials insisted on Tuesday that the United States and other countries had the right to respond "in an appropriate, mea-

sured and focused way" that did not set the stage for broader hostilities in the Middle East.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes told reporters: "The U.S. attitude is: if you can find them, seek them out and hit those responsible, go to it."

He added: "If we or another nation can find out who they are and wipe them out, that's fine with us."

Five of those who died in a hail of bullets and exploding grenades were American.

The Reagan administration frequently deplores escalating violence in the Middle East while at the same time declaring there must be no hiding place for those it regards as terrorists.

State department spokesman Charles Redman steered a careful course between these two positions, urging states to avoid action contributing to the cycle of violence but declaring that "terrorism cannot go unanswered."

U.S. officials hope Friday's attacks will drive home what it sees as a worldwide terrorism threat to civilised nations and lead to greater international cooperation in

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## Europe should expect more guerrilla attacks, Austria says

VIENNA (R) — Europe should brace itself for further attacks originating in the Middle East following last week's bloody incidents at Rome and Vienna airports, an Austrian Interior Ministry spokesman said Tuesday.

It doesn't take an intelligence expert to realise there may be a lot of terror attacks in the next few months. You just have to be a political observer of the Middle East," the spokesman told Reuters.

He said the same view was shared by Italian officials who conferred in Vienna on Monday with security officials investigating last Friday's twin raids.

The spokesman said much new

information had been established in the talks with the Italian investigators, who returned to Rome overnight, but he did not give details.

The heightened danger of attacks came partly from the increased splintering of the Palestinian movement, "especially when there are a lot of groups outside the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organisation)," he said.

The two gunmen who survived the attack on Vienna's Schwechat airport have said they belonged to the Abu Nidal group.

Interior Minister Karl Blecha said on Monday the survivors were both Palestinians, arriving

## Nuclear moratorium expires amid mixed Soviet signals

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union's unilateral suspension of nuclear weapons testing was due to expire Wednesday amid mixed signals from the Kremlin.

The official media maintained its barrage of attacks of the last few days on Washington's refusal to join the moratorium, announced on July 29 to run from August 6 until Dec. 31.

But the Communist Party daily Pravda also gave publicity to a call from U.S. citizens for more personal contacts between ordinary American and Soviet people.

The most significant sign of the improvement in U.S.-Soviet relations over 1985 is expected to be the New Year greeting to be broadcast on Wednesday by President Ronald Reagan on Soviet Television and by Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev to U.S. viewers.

It will be Mr. Reagan's first chance to address the Soviet people directly and the first time a U.S. president has done so since Richard Nixon in 1972.

Izvestia published an interview with Mr. Reagan in November. Senior Soviet spokesman Leonid Zamyatin also gave a rel-

atively upbeat view when he referred to "points of contact" between the superpowers on the main questions of disarmament.

In an article for the next edition of the weekly Moscow News, he said Soviet and U.S. proposals for arms cuts differed widely.

But he added: "The Soviet Union nevertheless believes that solutions are possible and is prepared to look for them."

Mr. Zamyatin heads the International Information Department of the ruling Communist Party's Central Committee.

The call for greater U.S.-Soviet contacts between ordinary citizens came in a Pravda report on letters sent by Americans to Mr. Gorbachev following his meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November.

Most of the letters quoted were in support of the Soviet position at the summit or critical of U.S. arms policy. But the article also quoted two different people writing from California suggesting more person-to-person contacts, including exchanges of visits between U.S. and Soviet citizens at the family level.

## Italy-Libya relations plunge to lowest level

ROME (R) — Relations between Italy and Libya were at one of their lowest points in years on Tuesday after Libyan praise for the bloody attacks at Vienna and Rome airports.

Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi on Monday condemned the Libyan news agency JANA for describing as "heroic" last Friday's attacks, in which 18 people, including four guerrillas, died and more than 100 were injured.

Such terminology, he said, revealed "a fanatic and bloodthirsty face without veils."

"There can be no heroism in... a massacre of innocent civilians and unarmed people," he added.

Libyan Ambassador Abdul Rahman Mohammad Shalghan was summoned to the Foreign Ministry and told Italy was shocked by the JANA commentary and wanted an official explanation from Tripoli.

The deterioration of relations was reflected in Tuesday's Italian press. "Never before has there been such a sour clash between the two governments," said the Rome daily la Repubblica.

Domenico Sica, the Italian magistrate investigating the Rome attack, returned on Tuesday from Austria where he exchanged information with authorities there questioning the two gunmen who survived the Vienna attack.

He was expected to again resume interrogating Mohammad Sarham, 19, the sole survivor of the four gunmen responsible for the Rome airport massacre in which 15 people were killed and more than 70 injured.

Mr. Craxi made his attack on JANA after he was informed that passports used by the gunmen in Vienna had been confiscated from Tunisian migrant workers in Libya earlier this year.



# Gemayel gives guarded welcome to peace pact

BEIRUT (R) — President Amin Gemayel, due to meet Syrian leader Hafez Al Assad in Damascus Wednesday, has given a guarded welcome to a Syrian-backed militia peace pact aimed at ending the Lebanon's civil war.

"The agreement is a very important step in the peace process in Lebanon," Mr. Gemayel said in an informal talk with university students that has shown on Lebanese television Monday night.

"We want to back it and encourage it... of course every (basic) provision needs study and deliberation," he added, stopping short of outright endorsement.

Mr. Gemayel, 43, took no part in negotiations between Lebanon's Falangist, Druze and Shi'ite Muslim militias who signed a pact in Damascus on Saturday to end almost 11 years of conflict.

State-owned Beirut Radio said the militias would jointly proclaim a ceasefire to the New Year would begin in peace. It said the Shi'ite Amal Movement had already ordered fighters on the city's "Green Line" front to stop shooting.

But a Christian radio said sniper fire wounded a man in East Beirut Monday as army troops fought artillery duels with Druze gunners in mountains above the capital.

Political sources said the Assad-Gemayel summit would be the first major step in a Syrian drive to win support for the pact from Lebanon's Falangist political establishment.

The summit was intended to "ensure national security in Lebanon," Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara said after talks with the Lebanese president in

Beirut Monday.

Israeli aircraft meanwhile made repeated deafening flights over Lebanon, breaking the sound barrier over Beirut and the southern port of Sidon, witnesses said.

East of Sidon, Israeli-backed militia battled opposition forces, security sources said. A man was killed and another injured when shells hit the Muslim-held village of Majdeloun.

The Sidon-based Muslim "Popular Liberation Army" said it would avoid reacting to what it called "a plan to engineer a major battle that would let the Israelis step in and foil the tripartite (militia) agreement."

The agreement aims to remove the roots of the civil war by giving the Muslim majority a greater say in government and by reducing the prerogatives of the Falangist-held presidency.

The Falangist Party, loyal to Mr. Gemayel, said Monday night it opposed some of the reforms accepted by the "Lebanese Forces" militia, which split from the party in March.

Lebanese army units defending the Christian side of the Green Line owe allegiance to Mr. Gemayel, whose cooperation is seen as vital in the next step envisaged by the pact — immediate formation of a new government of national reconciliation.

Meanwhile an official of Lebanon's Hezbollah (Party of God) faction Monday rejected the peace agreement, saying it served only the interests of Israel and the United States.

Mr. Sayyed Ibrahim Amin, head of a Hezbollah delegation in Tehran for some 10 days, told reporters his pro-Iranian group could not approve of deals with men like Elie Hobeika.

"The agreement serves only U.S. interests in the region and brings greater stability and calm for Israel. It deprives Muslims of a valuable opportunity to confront Israel," Mr. Amin told Tehran Radio.

The accord aims to give Lebanon's opposition majority more say in government and reduce the powers of the Falangist-held presidency.

An influential Iranian foreign policy-maker also denounced the agreement Monday as tantamount to a truce with Israel.

Ahmad Azzi, chairman of the Parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee, said in a statement that any pact with the Falangist Party "means an implicit agreement to stop the struggle against the Zionist regime and to coexist with it."

His statement, read on Tehran Radio, appeared to contradict an Iranian expression of support for Syrian peace efforts in Lebanon, made in a joint communiqué after a visit to Tehran by Syrian Prime Minister Abdul Rauf Al Kassar earlier this month.

Syria, which has invested much political capital in the Lebanese agreement, is Iran's closest ally in the Arab World.

## Islamic Jihad threatens more attacks

BEIRUT (AP) — The Islamic Jihad organisation, which holds six Americans and four Frenchmen hostage in Lebanon, said Tuesday it would mount more anti-American kidnappings and suicide bombings in 1986.

The shadowy group, believed to be made up of Shi'ite Muslims loyal to Iran, also threatened in an English-language communiqué to strike at Israeli targets "all over the world."

The communiqué, sent by mail in Beirut to the Associated Press, was received Tuesday. It said the group's high command took the decision to continue the attacks at an extraordinary meeting it held on Nov. 25. It did not say where.

The communiqué charged the Turkish government had become "a tool for the implementation" of Israel's and U.S. President Ronald Reagan's policies in the Middle East.

The organisation, whose name translates into Islamic Holy War, threatened terrorist attacks against Turkish embassies in Beirut, Baghdad, Tehran, Cairo, Tripoli, Bonn, Vienna and Paris.

"The high command of the Islamic Jihad organisation decided: The merciless punitive operations against American imperialism will continue until the United States stops interfering into the home affairs of the Arab nations and supporting the Israeli aggressors," the communiqué said.

Islamic Jihad had also claimed the 1983 truck-bombing of the French paratrooper headquarters in west Beirut that was simultaneous with the U.S. Marines bombing. Fifty-nine Frenchmen were killed.

The bulk of the American community was evacuated from Beirut shortly before the American Marines serving with an ill-starred Multi-National Force in Lebanon was withdrawn in Feb. 1984. The French, Italians and

British contingents were withdrawn, too, ending a 17-month venture.

"The Islamic Jihad organisation hasn't got carriers, submarines, cruisers, jet planes nor missiles but it has got militants who are ready to die in the name of God," the latest communiqué said.

"Under God's protection we shall carry on the holy war against the aggressors and the enemies of the Islamic revolution," the communiqué said. It concluded by saying: "We want only one."

In the threat to Israel, the communiqué said "punitive operations against the Israeli marauders terrorising the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples will continue not only in the occupied Arab lands but they will spread all over the world."

The communiqué said Islamic Jihad's high command blamed Middle East tensions on "the U.S. policy of all-out support to the Israeli aggressor."

It warned the Turkish government to "stop supporting the aggressive U.S. and Israeli policies, to cut short its own subversive activities against the Arab nations and liquidate the spy dens at its embassies, subsidiaries of the CIA and the (Israeli secret service) Mossad."

Islamic Jihad had claimed responsibility for the gunpoint abduction of six Americans and four Frenchmen in West Beirut in the last 21 months.

# U.N. condemns airport attacks

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Security Council has strongly condemned the "unjustified and criminal terrorist attacks" at the Rome and Vienna airports last Friday and urged that those responsible be brought to trial "in accordance with due process of law."

In a statement on behalf of all 15 members, read out by its president, the council also called on all concerned to "exercise restraint and to refrain from taking action inconsistent with their obligations under the U.N. Charter and other relevant rules of international law."

The statement, as originally drafted by the United States, had called for those responsible to be brought promptly to justice.

But council sources said a number of Non-Aligned members had insisted on the inclusion of additional language aimed against any retaliatory action of the kind that Israel is widely believed to be planning. This resulted in lengthy private consultations lasting much of the day.

The attacks, in which 18 people were killed and more than 100 wounded, were directed against the El Al Israel Airline's counters at the airports in Rome and Vienna.

Monday night's statement also reaffirmed recent resolutions and statements by the council, by the General Assembly and by Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar condemning all terrorist acts, including hostage taking.

A council statement, usually issued without public debate, carries less weight than a formal resolution.

Monday night's was read out in the council chamber by Council President Leandre Bassole of Burkina Faso.

Other recent U.N. pronouncements against terrorism have included:

A unanimous council resolution on Dec. 18, at the initiative of the United States, condemning unequivocally "all acts of hostage-taking and abduction."

A Dec. 9 General Assembly resolution, adopted without a vote, condemning "as criminal, all acts, methods and practices of terrorism wherever and by whomever committed."

A council statement on Oct. 9, after the release of the hijacked Italian cruise liner Achille Lauro, condemning "this unjustifiable and criminal hijacking as well as other acts of terrorism, including hostage-taking."

## Turkish envoy dies in Paris

PARIS (AP) — Turkey's ambassador to France, Adnan Bulak, has died at a French hospital following a brief illness, the embassy reported Tuesday. Mr. Bulak was 58.

The embassy said Mr. Bulak, who had undergone heart surgery in 1984, died Monday after being hospitalised for a week with influenza.

He had been ambassador to France since 1980 and previously held ambassadorial posts in Tunis and Peking.

Mr. Bulak was a career diplomat who also served as Turkish representative at the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation from 1960 to 1964.

# Iraq escalates raids on Kharg, Iranian camps

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) — Iraq on Tuesday escalated its attacks on Iranian oil facilities and troop positions, announcing two raids on the Kharg Island oil terminal in less than 12 hours, an attack on an unidentified ship off the Iranian coast, and the bombing of four Iranian military camps.

An Iraqi military spokesman, in a statement over the state-run Baghdad Radio, said the Iraqi jet fighters "wreaked death and destruction" in attacks on the Iranian border camps of Banah, Gildyan, Baswa and Mosek.

The attacks took place between 11:02 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., and all raiding jets returned unharmed to their bases leaving behind some of their targets in flames, according to the spokesman.

The exact location of the camps were not given, but the Iraqi Air Force has been launching intensive raids on Iranian troop emplacements along the central and southern sector of the 1,180-kilometre-long front line where Iran has reportedly massed some 500,000 troops for a major ground offensive against Iraq.

The attacks came in wake of an Iraqi threat to "exact revenge" on their war foe after accusing Iran of killing 24 civilians and wounding 21 others in air raids on two Iraqi cities Monday. The report was the first of a major strike on civilian targets since the two warring countries halted the raids on each other's cities in mid-June.

The key Iranian oil terminal at Kharg in the north eastern part of the Gulf waters was struck at 9:33 a.m., the spokesman said. He had earlier announced another raid on the terminal was carried out shortly before midnight Monday, along with a simultaneous attack on a "large maritime target."

The raids on Kharg were the 61st and 62nd since mid-August when Iraq began attacking its foe's vital facility with the avowed aim of choking Iran economically till the regime of the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini accepted a negotiated settlement to the five-year-old war.

Iran Tuesday denied it bombed residential areas in Iraq and urged the United Nations to send a team to assess the situation, the Iranian News Agency IRNA said.

Iraq said Monday night that 24 civilians were killed and 21 wounded in two Iranian air strikes on residential areas in north and south Iraq.

Earlier, the Iranians had reported that their planes bombed Iraqi troop concentrations near Sulaymaniyah, capital of Iraqi Kurdistan.

A papal envoy has arrived in Iraq to visit Iranian prisoners of war following a similar mission last week to Iraqis held by Iran, the Baghdad Nunciature (Vatican embassy) said Tuesday.

A spokesman said the envoy, Vatican-based French Cardinal Roger Etchegaray, had left the capital. He declined to say where he had gone.

Iraq's largest camp for Iranian POWs is at Ramadi, 110 kilometres west of Baghdad, and diplomats said Etchegaray might be visiting there.

Over the Christmas period, Etchegaray celebrated mass with some 400 Christian Iraqis among 3,000 prisoners in a camp near Tehran.

The Vatican newspaper L'Osservatore Romano said in its Christmas Day issue that the missions were humanitarian and intended to demonstrate Pope John Paul's desire for an end to the five-year-old Gulf war.

Meanwhile Turkey Tuesday confirmed that Iraqi jets turned back a Turkish plane on its way to Tehran and said Ankara and Baghdad were negotiating on the issue.

The Boeing 727 was going to the Iranian capital Monday to collect the Turkish government minister.

An Ankara airport official told Reuters the Turkish Airlines plane was intercepted by Iraqi warplanes and returned to Ankara.

A Foreign Ministry official said talks were going on to secure safe passage for the plane, due to collect Minister of State Mehmet Tuncel and a big delegation.

"Contacts with Iraqi officials both in Baghdad and in Ankara are still going on," he said.

Iraqi Ambassador Tariq Abdul Jabbar Jawad was called for the Foreign Ministry Monday to receive a complaint about the incident, the official added.

The plane which took Mr. Tuncel to Iran also flew over Iraqi territory and there was no immediate explanation for Monday's Iraqi action, nor for Turkey's apparent decision not to use an alternative route to Tehran over the Soviet Union.

Mr. Tuncel took 135 businessmen with him to Tehran last week for economic talks and to prepare for a visit there by Prime Minister Turgut Ozal due to begin on Friday.

Officials would not speculate on whether the Iraqi action would jeopardise Mr. Ozal's visit. He is also due to visit Iraq later in 1986.

Iraq earlier this year declared Iranian airspace a "prohibited war zone" and cautioned international airlines that it could not guarantee the safety of international flights.

Turkish officials said Iraq had agreed to guarantee the safety of the Turkish plane but "somehow changed its mind later."

Turkey has maintained good relations with both Iraq and Iran since the beginning of the Gulf war in September 1980.

## Cyprus parliament elects leader

NICOSIA (R) — Cyprus' new 56-seat parliament has elected Socialist politician Vassos Lysiarides as house leader after being deadlocked on the issue for three weeks.

Mr. Lysiarides, leader of the EDEK Socialist Party with six seats in the house, won 22 votes in a third ballot. President Spyros Kyprianou's 16 Democratic Party members voted for him.

The 14 Communist Akel members, with a 15th absent, and 19 right-wing rally members voted for their respective leaders.

In two earlier ballots the Democrats had voted for former house leader George Ladas. Mr. Kyprianou, an executive president, does not sit in parliament.

Disputes over voting procedures had led to inconclusive polls in three previous house sessions since the Dec. 8 election.

Mr. Lysiarides, whose party has close relations with the ruling Pasko Party of Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu, promised to exercise his duties with strict impartiality.

The house immediately got down to legislative business held up since the old 35-seat house was dissolved in November.

# Ethiopia, Sudan want to improve ties

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Ethiopia and Sudan said Tuesday they wanted to improve relations strained for years over allegations that each supports rebels fighting to topple the government of the other.

In a message congratulating Sudan on the 30th anniversary of its independence, Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam expressed his "firm conviction that the historic bonds of friendship

and cooperation between the two sisterly countries will be further strengthened for the mutual benefit of the two people."

The Sudanese embassy expressed Sudan's readiness to improve ties between the two neighbours, saying in a published statement that it would work "to further enhance Ethiopian-Sudanese relations in a manner that truly reflects the desire and aspirations of the two fraternal peoples."

Meanwhile Sudan's official news agency (SUNA) reported Tuesday that a Soviet delegation is coming to Khartoum in mid-January for talks on economic cooperation.

The report gave no specifics of the discussions but recalled that the Soviet Union offered Sudan loans in the 1960s to finance industries and other facilities such as a veterinary laboratory and a university hospital.

Turkey has maintained good relations with both Iraq and Iran since the beginning of the Gulf war in September 1980.

## Mujahedeen reports more tortures in Iran

PARIS (AP) — The exile office of the Iranian guerrilla movement, the Mujahedeen, charged Iran on Tuesday with torturing and then burning a political prisoner to death last fall.

The Mujahedeen, which describes itself as leftist and Islamic, also said that, "based on the incoming reports from Iranian Kurdistan, the Khomeini regime's guards have resorted to the public

execution and torture of innocent populace of the villages in order to prevent the spread of the resistance."

It identified the tortured prisoner as 20-year-old Morteza Qassemi-Nejad, a member of the Mujahedeen.

It said his "body was set ablaze by the Khomeini regime's Pasdaran (Revolutionary Guards) in the jail of the northwestern city of Ardebil in autumn 1985," the victim had, prior to his death, been detained and tortured on two occasions in the same town."

It also alleged that on Dec. 13, "Khomeini's forces executed two passengers of a bus before the eyes of the rest of the passengers in one of the roads of the Sardasht region in south Kurdistan. The two executed victims came from the village of Biuran situated in the same locality."

The Mujahedeen is led by Masoud Rajavi, who fled to Paris July 29, 1981, along with ousted Iranian President Abol Hassan Bani Sadr.

They soon formed a National Council of Resistance, but later had a falling over Mr. Rajavi's contacts with Iraq.

## Brotherly love restored at Christ's birthplace

BETHLEHEM, West Bank (R) — Rival priests accepted a compromise Tuesday averting violence which in previous years has accompanied the annual Christmas tiding of the Church of the Nativity of the traditional site of Jesus' birth.

Mayor Elias Freij, a Palestinian Christian, told reporters that Greek Orthodox and Armenian priests agreed to postpone celebrating a wall over which each claims it has control in the 1,600-year-old church.

Documents drawn up in 1852 under the Ottoman Turks and detailed further in 1929 under the British mandate are the basis for determining rights to clean, repair and worship in the church.

But disputes arise. Last year a priest was wounded in a brawl over the cleaning.

TV & RADIO	
<b>JORDAN TELEVISION</b> Tel. 73111-14	23:45 Evening Show Continued 23:57 News Headlines 24:00 Close Down
<b>MAIN CHANNEL</b>	
16:00 Koran	
16:30 Religious programmes	
16:35 Children's programmes	
16:40 Super Gran - Last Episodes	
16:45 Programme Review	
16:50 Arabic Series	
16:55 Programme Review	
17:00 Varieties	
17:05 "Winning"	
17:10 News in Arabic	
<b>FOREIGN CHANNEL</b>	
16:00 French Programme	
16:30 News in French	
16:35 Le theatre de Bouvard	
16:40 News in Hebrew	
16:45 News in Arabic	
16:50 Thane's Company	
16:55 Documentary, Connection	
17:00 News in English	
17:05 Falcon Crest	
<b>RADIO JORDAN</b> 355 kHz, VOA 99 MHz, FM & party on 95.6 MHz, SW Tel. 4111-10	
07:00 "Light Music"	
07:30 Newsdesk	
08:00 Morning Show	
08:30 News Summary	
09:00 Morning Show Contd.	
11:00 News Summary	
12:00 Pop Session Contd.	
12:30 Pop Session Contd.	
13:00 News Summary	
13:30 Pop Session	
14:00 News Bulletin	
14:30 Instrumentals	
15:00 The Young Sound	
15:30 Concert Hour	
16:00 News Summary	
16:30 Instrumentals	
16:50 Old Favorites	
17:00 Jordan Weekly	
17:30 Pop Session	
18:00 News Summary	
18:30 Over a Cup of Tea	
19:00 News Desk	
19:30 Date with a Star	
20:00 Evening Show	
20:30 News Summary	
21:00 Evening Show Contd.	
21:30 News Summary	
22:00 Evening Show Continued	
22:30 News Summary	

WHAT'S GOING ON	
<b>TODAY'S EVENTS</b>	
<b>EXHIBITIONS</b>	
A painting exhibition by Khalid Kheir at the Spanish Cultural Centre (until Jan. 9).	
An exhibition of handicrafts at the Social Development Centre in Hay Nazzi (until Jan. 7)	
<b>CULTURAL CENTRES</b>	
Royal Cultural Centre. Tel. 6610267	
American Centre. 644371	
British Council. 6341478	
French Cultural Centre. 637009	
Goethe Institute. 641993	
Soviet Cultural Centre. 644203	
Spanish Cultural Centre. 634049	
Turkish Cultural Centre. 639771	
Hays Arts Centre. 665195	
Hassan Youth City. 6671816	
Y.W.C.A. 641793	
Y.W.M.C.A. 644251	
University of Jordan Library. 643555	
<b>MUSEUMS</b>	
Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also models from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.	
Jabal Amman Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qara' (Circled Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays) 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays.	
Jordan National Galleries: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Maanash, Jabal Lawleh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.	
Museum of Military Memorabilia: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.	
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 637169.	
<b>SERVICE CLUBS</b>	
Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn. 1:30 p.m.	
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel. 7:30 p.m.	
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn. 1:30 p.m.	
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel. 2:00 p.m.	
Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816534, 817534.	
<b>CHURCHES</b>	
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 624590.	
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Lawleh, 637440.	
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, 661757.	
Church of the Assumption (Greek Orthodox) Abadi, 623541.	
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 679906.	
Armenian Catholic Church Astrafieh, 771331.	
Armenian Orthodox Church Astrafieh, 775261.	
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Astrafieh, 771751.	
Armenian International Church (Orthodox) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shamsieh, 677534.	
Evangelical Lutheran Church Jabal Amman, 6th Circle, (Rev. N. Smir), Tel. 811295.	
Religious Groupings (International, Interdenominational) meets in the Church of the Redeemer, Jabal Amman, Tel. 663249.	
<b>PRAYER TIMES</b>	
06:00 Fajr	
06:30 Sunrise (Sunrise)	
12:30 Dhuhr	
14:30 Asr	
16:00 Maghrib	
18:00 Isha	

# FOR THE TRAVELLER

## QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

### ARRIVALS

07:30	London, Larnaca (BA)
07:40	Kuwait (KC)
08:15	Aqaba (RP)
08:30	Kuwait (RJ)
08:45	Sanaa (IY)
09:00	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:15	Cairo (RJ)
09:45	Jeddah (RJ)
09:50	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:00	Dhahran (RJ)
10:15	Bahrain (RJ)
13:45	Kuwait (KC)
15:05	Tripoli Larnaca (LN)
15:10	Jeddah (SV)
17:30	Baghdad (IA)
17:30	Paris, Damascus (AF)
17:30	Cairo (RJ)
17:35	Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
17:50	New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
17:45	Damascus (IY)
17:50	London, Paris (RJ)
18:00	Madrid, Geneva (RJ)
18:05	Amman (RJ)
18:10	Rome (RJ)
18:25	Beirut (ME)
18:25	Istanbul (RJ)
18:30	Baghdad (IA)
19:30	Frankfurt (LH)
19:30	Cairo, Rome (RJ)
20:05	Frankfurt-Damascus (LH)
21:15	Tripoli-Damascus (PK)
22:30	Baghdad (IA)
02:30	Baghdad (RJ)

### DEPARTURES

06:30	Istanbul, Amsterdam (KLM)
06:45	Larnaca, London (BA)
06:50	Athens (OY)
08:50	Athens, Rome (PK)
09:15	Damascus, Rome (LJ)
09:30	Damascus, Cairo (RJ)
13:00	Belgrade, London (RJ)
13:00	Baghdad, Zurich (SI)
13:30	Doha, Sharjah, Vienna (RJ)
13:30	Cairo (RJ)
14:35	Kuwait (KC)

16:00	Jeddah (SV)
18:05	Sanaa (IY)
19:30	Kuwait (RJ)
19:40	Dhahran (RJ)
19:45	Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
20:00	Cairo (RJ)
20:10	Baghdad (RJ)
20:15	Jeddah (RJ)
20:30	Baghdad (IA)
20:30	Abu Dhabi (RJ)
22:15	Kuwait (KC)
23:30	Rio, Lisbon (IA)

### MARITIME TRAFFIC

*Regular-line ships stocking at Aqaba port:*

- Ville de Ponant
- Al Fujairah

Amiri Kavar and Sons Company, Tel. 622324-9 at your service.

### WEATHER

*Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.*

An increase in temperature is expected, with medium and high clouds and winds will be southerly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be southerly moderate and calm sea.

Amman	5/18
Aqaba	10/23
Deserts	3/16
Jordan Valley	11/21

### MONEY EXCHANGE

Tuesday rates	
Local sell/buy rates in fils	
Bahraini dinar	970 980
Swiss guilders	132 131.6
Egyptian guinea	208 215
French franc	48.5 48.9
Israeli dinar	328 335
Japanese yen (for 100)	182.6 184
Kuwaiti dinar	12657 1275
Lebanese lira	20 22
Omani riyal	1055 1065.7
Saudi riyal	100 102
Saudi riyal	100 102
Swedish crown	48.2 48.6
Swiss franc	176.7 178.1
Japanese yen	265 268
UAE Dirham	99 102
U.K. sterling pound	527.3 531.5
U.S. dollar	366.2 369.3



## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Motorcycle imports temporarily banned

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai has issued directives banning the import of all kinds of motorised bicycles until all motorcycles stored in importers' warehouses are sold to official dealerships. The new regulation came in a note the prime minister sent to Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Rajai Muasher, in response to a request from Minister of Finance Hamza Odeh. In another directive, Mr. Rifai requested that ministries and government departments which utilise motorcycles for official purposes to purchase what they need from the quantity available in the Kingdom.

## Contracts awarded for school expansion

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Education has awarded contracts to local companies to expand school buildings and build annexes to schools in Irbid Governorate in the course of implementing the ministry's sixth project. The total cost of the construction will amount to JD 1,079,733 and will finance the enlargement of schools at Kifunieh, Ajloun, Kufri Awan, Kufri Assad, Deir Abu Said, Turrah, Ramtha and Sakab. According to Irbid Governor Mohammad Ali Amin the projects will be completed by the beginning of 1987.

## Muasher limits 'sale' announcements

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Industry and Trade Rajai Muasher re-imposed regulations on the announcement of big sales by merchants and stores dealing in ready-wear clothing. According to the regulations stores can announce big sales on their products twice a year: from Jan. 15 to Feb. 15 and from August 15 to September 15. The order empowered the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce to implement the regulations.

## Transport company meets

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Transport Farhi Obeid chaired a meeting Tuesday by the unified company for organising transport on the road which discussed the current situation of the establishment and reviewed the services it provides to truck owners and drivers. The company's board of directors discussed means of structuring the company's capital to give every truck owner the opportunity to buy from 10 to 300 shares in the company. The board also decided to raise the company's capital from JD 2 to JD 3 million in order to enable truck owners to obtain shares in the establishment. Mr. Obeid also called on the board of directors to draw up a time schedule for services to be presented for trucks on the road and at Aqaba airport.

## Bank to accept Egyptian donations

AMMAN (Petra) — The Housing Bank has announced that its 77 branches around the country will receive contributions during its normal morning and evening hours by Egyptian nationals living in Jordan who wish to participate in their country's endeavours for repaying its foreign debts. The measure was taken in response to a call made by the Egyptian government to all Egyptian nationals living in Egypt and abroad, according to a bank spokesman. He said that all contributions will be transferred to special accounts opened by the Egyptian National Bank in Cairo.

## Jordan to attend Tokyo conference

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in a joint conference due to be held in Tokyo by the Japanese Centre for Middle Eastern Affairs in March 1986. The conference will discuss the training of engineers of the use of computers and other technological applications. The Jordanian-Japanese Friendship Society, which made the announcement, said that it has nominated Dr. Yusef Nuseir from the Royal Scientific Society to represent it at the conference and will submit a working research paper on the prospects of using computers in Jordan. Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Kuwait will also take part in the three-day conference.

## King returns after extensive talks with Syrian leader

(Continued from page 1)

editorials about the King's meetings and confined to covering the event which made big headlines here.

Political observers said that the Syrian media's attitude indicated that the talks had not reached final results on all issues and that some differences persist. The observers did not expect immediate results for the Syrian-Jordanian summit. They said that Syria is not expected to take a final position on peace efforts until next March when the American Congress is expected to discuss an arms deal for Jordan.

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai,

Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Odeh, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh and Foreign Minister Masri accompanied the King on the visit and attended the formal talks.

The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, quoted Mr. Rifai as saying at the end of the King's visit that the Damascus summit "tackled the situation in the Middle East, Arab affairs and relations between the two brotherly countries and ways to strengthen them."

The King and the delegation accompanying him were seen off from Damascus by President Assad, Syrian Prime Minister Abdul Raouf Al Kasm, cabinet members and senior officials and

heads of diplomatic missions in Damascus.

Parallel to the King's summit with Mr. Assad, Mr. Rifai and Dr. Kasm held talks on various issues related to bilateral cooperation in the fields of trade and economy and joint projects.

Also, Foreign Minister Masri and his Syrian counterpart Farouk Al Shara discussed issues related to a number of forthcoming Arab and Islamic conferences, Petra said.

Petra did not give details other than saying that the issues discussed by the two foreign ministers included an Afro-Arab meeting due to be held in Damascus in

January, a meeting of foreign ministers of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) scheduled to be held in Morocco also in January and an Arab League Council meeting expected to begin in Tunis on Jan. 4. The Arab League meeting was called for by Syria and Libya to review recent diplomatic moves by African and other states to restore severed relations with Israel.

International news agencies quoted unnamed Jordanian officials as saying on Monday that the King and President Assad agreed to exchange ambassadors during their talks. The two countries withdrew their ambassadors to each other in 1980.

## Arafat reaffirms commitment to Feb. 11 agreement

(Continued from page 1)

direct confrontation with the Arab Nation."

Welcoming a greater role in Middle East affairs for Egypt, he said:

"It is imperative that Egypt regain its natural place in the body of the Arab Nation far from the policies of Camp David" in March 1979.

Mr. Arafat vowed that the "armed struggle against Israeli

occupation" would continue and called on "dissident factions" to "return to the Palestinian family."

Mr. Arafat conceded that the last four years had been "difficult" for the PLO, but he said the organisation was prepared to fight "with force" against "Israeli occupation."

Mr. Arafat has pledged to refrain from violence outside the Israeli-occupied territories and has denied any involvement in the

Friday's attacks on airports in Rome and Vienna.

Mr. Arafat said the PLO's continued confrontation with Israel was "a legitimate right recognised by international treaties and norms and a living expression of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination on their own territory."

Mr. Arafat also referred to Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon as "a fiasco" created by "Israeli-

Arab collusion."

"At present, the United States is the centre of aggression against the Palestinian reality," Mr. Arafat said.

He called Israel's October air raid against PLO headquarters in Tunis proof of Washington's intentions to "liquidate the Palestinian leadership" and of U.S. "direct and declared" involvement in the Middle East conflict.

## Tension goes up after U.S. gives virtual okay for Israeli action

(Continued from page 1)

wanted men.

Former Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban said that the White House approval of retaliation against the strikes in Rome and Vienna was an important step forward in the war against terrorism.

"For the first time, a world power describes terrorists as pirates and says that whoever takes action against them is justified in doing so," Eban said on Israeli Radio.

The U.S. stand was viewed by many here as giving Israel a green light to strike back at those responsible for the attacks, despite possible damage to the Mideast peace process.

Several newspapers reported that the Washington remarks also seemed intended to forestall an Israeli strike against Syrian missiles deployed two weeks ago in eastern Lebanon. Israel has said the mis-

siles damage its ability to bomb commando bases and gather intelligence.

Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Ghali said Israeli action to avenge the attacks could halt the Middle East peace process.

"Egypt has strongly condemned the two actions, the aim of which was destabilisation and stopping the cycle of peace," Dr. Ghali told reporters. "Any revenge action by Israel would in effect achieve these aims by halting the peace process."

Dr. Ghali had been asked to comment on Egypt's position in the event that Israel opted for military retaliation for the attacks.

"Violence and the violation of human rights and dignity does not justify more violence otherwise the law of the jungle will prevail in the world," he said.

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Israel could strike guerrillas anywhere in retaliation for the Rome and Vienna attacks.

Asked by Israeli Television whether Libya might be hit, he said: "I do not rule out attacks against terrorist targets anywhere."

Rabin said information from Austrian and Italian authorities indicated the group of Abu Nidal carried out the attacks.

He said he hoped Italy and Austria would make available to Israel all information they receive about the attacks from the three surviving Arab gunmen.

A Rome daily said on Tuesday that the lone surviving terrorist of the Rome attack told investigators that his attack was backed by Libya and that other assaults were planned against Paris and Madrid.

agency dispatches



Minister of Agriculture Ahmad Dakhhan (second from right) and United Nations Development Programme Representative in Jordan Adnan Raouf (third right) sign an agreement Tuesday to implement phase four of the Highlands Development Project (Petra photo)

## Jetty for Iraqi oil nears completion

AOABA (J.T.) — Work on an oil jetty which began last March at Aqaba is due to be completed by the end of January, and the new port facilities will be used to load Iraqi crude oil on tankers arriving at Aqaba, according to an announcement on Tuesday by Mr. Bassam Qaqish, director general of the Jordanian Ports Corporation (JPC).

He said that huge oil tankers, with a capacity of loading at least 400,000 tonnes of oil each, will begin docking at the harbour to load oil sometime during February.

The cost of the project is expected to amount to JD 1.78 million, said Mr. Qaqish during an inspection tour of the harbour region.

Mr. Qaqish, who is also chair-

man of the board of directors of a union of Arab-Jordanian land transport companies, said that the union's headquarters will remain in Aqaba until a feasibility study has been completed on a new location. This union is mainly concerned with speeding transporting goods arriving at Aqaba harbour to different locations in Jordan, Mr. Qaqish said.

Mr. Qaqish earlier attended a meeting at Aqaba to discuss the JPC's activities and programmes. The meeting, chaired by Transport Minister Farhi Obeid, discussed the prospect of building a wharf at Aqaba harbour for transshipping Iraqi cement from Aqaba. Also discussed at the meeting were a number of measures pertaining to compensation of employees and workers employed

by the JPC. Mr. Obeid, accompanied by Mr. Qaqish, later paid an inspection visit to the harbour and the oil jetty construction site.

Jordan and Iraq earlier this year agreed to ship at least one million tonnes of Iraqi crude oil per year via Aqaba and in October an agreement was signed entrusting a local company to ship the crude from Iraqi oil fields to the port city.

## Hariri school board meets

AMMAN (J.T.) — The board of trustees of the Nazek Al Hariri School for the rehabilitation of children held a meeting here Tuesday under the chairmanship of Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan.

The board reviewed the accomplishments of the centre for the rehabilitation of handicapped children over the past months. The centre was built through contributions by Mrs. Nazek Al Hariri, wife of wealthy Saudi benefactor Rafiq Al Hariri.

During the meeting the board endorsed the authorities and the duties which are to be entrusted to the centre's director and it was decided to offer the centre as a teaching and training ground for the University of Jordan's post-graduate students in special education.

He said administrative reforms which should be introduced in the light of economic and social developments will feature in the planned conference.

## Jordan, FAO agree to implement fourth phase of highlands project

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) signed an agreement Tuesday on developing the high regions of Jordan over the coming five years.

Under the agreement the FAO will partly finance the project, which is designed to reclaim 100,000 dunums of high and hilly regions owned by small farmers, and which are to be planted with fruit trees. The project also entails reclaiming another 100,000 dunums owned by the government, also to be planted with fruit trees.

The whole project is expected to cost \$52 million, of which \$17.5 million will be covered by the FAO's United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The agreement was signed by Minister of Agriculture Ahmad Dakhhan and UNDP's representative in Jordan Adnan Raouf.

The Ministry of Agriculture, in cooperation with UNDP, had earlier completed the third phase of a project to develop high regions in Jordan between 1983 and 1985 at a cost of \$36 million, of which UNDP contributed \$13 million. The new agreement is to cover the fourth phase of the ministry's programme, a ministry spokesman said.

He said that the third phase of

the project entailed the reclamation of 75,000 dunums of land and planting them with fruit trees, and another 48,000 dunums planted with forest trees in different areas of the country.

The third phase, he said, was completed three months ahead of schedule, and a total of 3,000 farmers benefited from the third phase of the project.

Programmes carried out in the sixties and seventies illustrated the development potential of the highlands given the use of advanced technology on land areas farmed on a cooperative basis. Despite those encouraging results, priority in the allocation of funds for agriculture was at that time given to the Jordan Valley which was the most profitable area for development.

According to a USAID project paper, "the Jordan Valley presently accounts for 35 per cent of the total agricultural output produced on about 26,000 hectares of land while the highlands contribute 65 per cent produced on about 225,000 hectares. This

amount could be raised to a total of 342,000 hectares of available cultivable land in the highlands. Their agricultural potential lies in the basically fertile soils, annual rainfall between 200 and 600 mm and a relatively long growing season, so that multiple cropping and diversified farming operations are possible.

The government's Highland Development Programme has been designed to increase the agricultural production of the highlands and so to improve Jordan's food security, maximise the use of available agricultural land and to increase farmer income. It is a joint Jordanian-United States programme, the contribution of the U.S. to the estimated total project cost of \$62.3 million will be \$27.5 million. An agreement between Jordan and the United States to this effect has recently been signed.

Presently, there are several programmes and projects focusing on the development of the highland area, including Australian, German and U.S. projects and programmes of international development organisations in cooperation with the Jordanian government, universities and research institutions, all of which are to be concentrated under a common directorate in the Ministry of Agriculture.

## Agriculture Ministry is implementing Zarqa river basin development project

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA), is currently implementing a project for developing the Zarqa river basin to stop soil erosion and increase farmers' income from their land. The project is also designed to reduce the amount of sediment settling in the bottom of the reservoir formed behind the King Faisal Dam in order to increase the dam's water storage capacity, according to the ministry's information office.

A ministry statement said that the project is being carried out over 820,000 dunums, extending from the Sweileh highlands and Jubeiha in the south to Sakab in the north of the JVA.

According to the statement nearly 140,000 people inhabit the region, half of whom reside in refugee camps, and the second half are settled in 71 villages and towns, in which 5,700 families live on agriculture and farming.

The statement emphasised that the Zarqa basin suffers from soil erosion largely due to misuse of land and this has resulted in large silt and earth deposits at the bottom of the King Faisal reservoir.

Many local farmers have also abandoned their lands because of low

income from farming and this is a major reason for carrying out this vital project, the statement added.

The project aims at introducing measures to stop soil erosion, maintaining the farmlands to ensure better production and increase farmers' income so that they stay on the land, and reducing the amount of sediments in the bottom of the reservoir to enable it to irrigate larger areas of land, especially in the dry season.

The project is expected to cost \$12.5 million, to be financed by the treasury and through loans from Arab and foreign funds and financial institutions.

## Day-care centres serve working mothers

This is the last part of a series on pre-school education by Moulka Warich. Part one, which appeared in Tuesday's Jordan Times, examined the growing number of private kindergartens operating in the Amman area. Today's article takes a look at institutional and government day-care centres, and assesses the planned Child Development Centre, to be established at the University of Jordan with the cooperation of the Queen Noor Al-Hussein Foundation.

In order to meet the needs of working mothers without relatives or servants to fall back on for the care of their small children, many institutions such as schools, colleges, hospitals, Al-Fid, The Royal Jordanian Airline, and government offices have a nursery of their own.

A fairly new development in this field is the opening of a kindergarten by the Syndicate of Banks, the membership of which includes all banks in Amman.

Mrs. Intisar Mattar, who runs the Syndicate nursery, said it was founded in January 1985 exclusively for the children of bank employees. Presently there are 43 children, 16 of them babies under 1 year of age, and the fee is JD 15 per month. The institution is subsidised by the Syndicate, which is paying the rent and supplying toys and equipment; the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) provided the furniture. Mrs. Mattar added that the banks' employees decided to establish their own kindergarten as the fees of the private ones were too expensive for most of them.

Rather moderate fees are a common feature of institutional as well as public day care centres. However, their main purpose is to provide working mothers with a safe place for their children.

The income of most working women using the service of the government day care centre in Ashrafieh is rather low, according to a recent survey by the centre. The majority of the mothers earn between JD 75 and 100 per month (64), 24 up to JD 170 and 18 get less than JD 75.

The Ashrafieh day care centre is one of the 5 which are run by the MSD itself and it accommodates 107 children currently. The other centres of the Ministry are in Amman, Salt, Zarqa and Irbid, with about 40 children each. All of them are open for children whose mothers work with the government or in government institutions, and the fee is JD 10 for the first and JD 5 for the second child of any one family. It includes two meals daily and regular health care. The day care centre is open from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. to cover the mothers' regular working hours.

Ms. Burqan said the MSD might require all nurseries to open during normal working hours, since many private ones have rather limited hours.

A visit to the Ashrafieh centre revealed a very spacious and light-purpose house, which was designed and financed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and opened in 1976. As the principal explained, only the mothers' jobs and income are taken in account when the admission of a child is considered.

The children are divided into groups according to age and supervised by 12 teachers, including two nurses for the babies under 1 year of age. There were not many ready-made toys around, but a great number of wall pictures, puzzles and educational toys, all of them obviously handmade and specially prepared by the teachers themselves.

Apart from the day care centres it runs on its own, the MSD has certain responsibilities towards all kindergartens, as long as they care for children under the age of 5.

## MSD regulations

MSD regulations call for the provision of sufficient inside and outside space, activity rooms, a separate area for infants, kitchen and bathroom — ideally with children-size facilities —, safe heating, carpeted floors and trained teachers. The kindergarten should generally provide a healthy environment and employ all possible means to promote the children's cognitive, psychological and social development.

The teachers working with children of the age group 2-5 should at least have a community college certificate (or equivalent), while those for ages 0-2 should have finished the third preparatory class of school, according to the Ministry's regulations.

Since 1984, every nursery school has to obtain a licence which is only granted if these requirements are fulfilled, at least to a certain degree. Ms. Burqan said that the Ministry's policy is generally supporting, even if there are minor shortcomings. Only if several at-

## The planned Child Development Centre

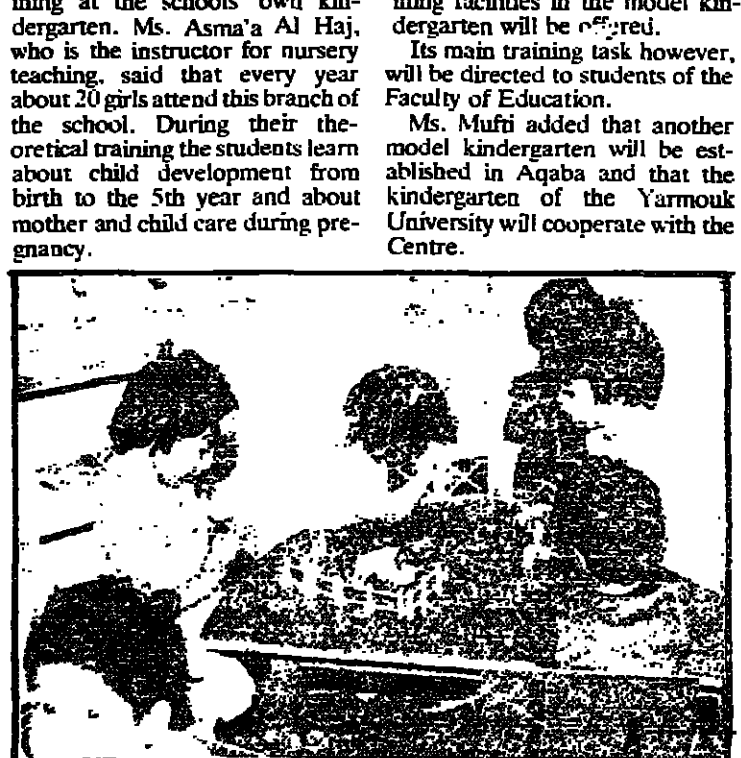
The Child Development Centre which is to be established by the Queen Noor Al Hussein Foundation in cooperation with the University of Jordan, aims to develop and design model programmes for childhood needs, with special emphasis on kindergarten and nursery education. Ms. Mufti who is also a member of the board of the Queen Noor Al Hussein Foundation, explained that the centre will be located on the university campus in its own building near the already existing model school, to facilitate close cooperation with it.

The nursery will serve as training and model institution and there will be a special workshop for the design and the production of educational materials. The Child Development Centre is also to include a research unit and a documentation and information department.

It is one of the aims of the Centre to improve the image of nursery education, said Ms. Mufti. The recently established National Association for the Development of the Child, in conjunction with the Child Development Centre, is working towards similar goals. Among the members of the association are several owners of private kindergartens, to whom training facilities in the model kindergarten will be offered.

Its main training task however, will be directed to students of the Faculty of Education.

Ms. Mufti added that another model kindergarten will be established in Aqaba and that the kindergarten of the Yarmouk University will cooperate with the Centre.



Pre-schoolers enjoying their playtime at the government's Ashrafieh Day Care Centre



# Jordan Times

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## 1986

IT IS on the first day of a new year that the temptation for most of us to do well and be good is usually strongest. At a time like this, some people tend to look at things too objectively perhaps and say that the new year celebrations are nothing but a fancy way of recognising the 12th completion of the lunar cycle. The majority, however, see a cyclical march of the moon slightly differently: they take a pause to look at what has passed and look again to see what can be accomplished in the new year and beyond. But in whatever case and whatever mood one is in, it is always useful to stop for a moment and take inventory of the state of humanity in this complex universe. The usefulness of such a practice could be found in a determination hitherto unknown to oneself to do good and to make it through the coming year in a fashion that helps as many, and harms as few, people as possible.

Looking back at 1985, there are reasons to believe that that year, just like any other, had its ups and downs, but that without it there would be no real urge to do better and to continue with the good things that happened in it. It is always tempting to look ahead and list what one hopes will happen in 1986, but to do so somehow seems an admission that in simply wishing for the best in the next 12 months we shirk our responsibility to work for the attainment of the things we desire. In the wishing and hoping department, we wish and hope that it will rain soon. But in everything else, it is only appropriate to reaffirm that this new year and the ones after it should see a more determined application of the good principles that the world has learned, cherished and fought for. For us in this part of the world, like in many other parts, these principles boil down to the concepts of self-determination, justice, freedom, and honourable deeds for and by all. A quick glance at 1985 and before shows that where these principles have been denied, violence and conflict erupted; but that where there has been a sincere effort to put them into effect, harmony surfaced and took hold on earth.

Our hopes for 1986 are that, after it rains, there will be a sincere and continuing effort by all of us to be more humble and merciful, and to combine all and every strength we have for the common good of all men on this earth.

### ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

#### Al Ra'i: The crowning achievement

THE SUMMIT meeting in Damascus between King Hussein and President Assad is an expression of solidarity among Arab sister states and a means for mobilising Arab ranks and strengthening the Arab nation's stands. Both countries have common goals and objectives and both face plots by the same enemies and therefore it was only natural for them to concert their efforts and be ready to face any eventuality. The summit meeting in Damascus had been the desire of all Arab masses who are keen on maintaining a strong Arab stand and who want all differences among Arab states to be removed and solidarity restored. The summit is a crowning of series of meetings among officials from Jordan and Syria who had met to chart joint economic and political plans for the future. The meeting in Damascus came at a most crucial time as the Arab Nation faces stepped-up Israeli conspiracies and as the despair has almost increasingly reigns over the Arab region. We are hopeful that the Damascus summit will yield fruitful results and pave the way for stronger ties between the two neighbouring countries.

#### Al Dustour: A needed new beginning

THE SUMMIT meeting between King Hussein and President Assad of Syria marks the beginning of a new chapter in the relations between the two countries and a fresh step towards rebuilding intrinsic Arab force and consolidating Arab ranks. Both Jordan and Syria confront a common enemy and both are in direct confrontation with aggression which is being constantly launched on the Arab Nation by the Israelis and their allies. The meeting is a show of solidarity among brothers at a time when the whole Arab region is threatened by enemy aggression and the Arab people have nearly lost hope in desperation as they watch continuous enemy acts directed against them. We attach big hopes to the Damascus summit, which should mark the beginning of reconciliation, and an end to differences among all Arabs who are agreed on the need of unity and the restoration of national rights.

#### Sawt Al Shaab: All will benefit

THOSE PEOPLE who followed the Damascus and Amman radio stations broadcasting national songs and enthusiastic statements about the summit between King Hussein and President Assad must have been filled with new hopes for the future. Damascus and Amman are in the same trench fighting the same battle for the same objectives and goals. The leaders of both countries, realising the need for concerted efforts and meaningful action to repel enemy aggression, have met to chart a common strategy for a common cause. We have reason to be happy and hopeful about this summit. We have waited too long for it. Because such a summit between the leaders of countries in direct confrontation with the enemy can be of great significance for the Arabs and the region as a whole. The meeting comes at a time when Syria is being threatened by Israel for deploying missiles to defend itself and at a moment when the Israeli enemy is escalating arbitrary measures against our people inside and outside the occupied Arab territory. The summit meeting in Damascus is a new start towards building Arab solidarity on a firm basis, benefiting both countries and the whole Arab Nation.

## VIEW FROM AMERICA

# America's 'special relationship' with Arabs is vanishing

By Franz Schurmann

SAN FRANCISCO — As the year 1985 ends, the main economic news in the U.S. can be summarised in a few words: the stock market is up and oil prices are down. "OPEC is dead" headlined one California newspaper.

These economic trends are having a direct effect on the Middle East. The falling prices for oil mean less global power for the oil-producing countries of the Middle East. And the combination of a booming stock market and falling oil prices means that American businessmen no longer fear the effect of Middle Eastern crises on the world economy. And the business of American business now is the world economy.

The American stock market also believes that global inflation has been defeated. Much of the raging inflation of the 1970's was due to skyrocketing

oil prices. Now oil is plentiful, cheap, and more and more of it comes from outside the Middle East. Ironically, with the successful summit in Geneva, even the Soviet Union could become a major oil exporter, perhaps even to the U.S.

The obvious big loser in this new trend is Saudi Arabia. OPEC, in the early 1970's, gave the Saudis great new power. "Petrodollars" from Saudi Arabia flowed into other Arab and many Third World countries. Saudi Arabia was a power that had to be respected in the affairs of the global monetary system. When former president Carter visited Riyadh some years ago, he spoke of a "special relationship" between the U.S. and Saudi Arabia. "Special relationship" is a word only sparingly used by U.S. officials. We have one with Britain, Canada, Israel. But that is all.

With OPEC now all but vanished, that special relationship with Saudi Arabia is also vanishing. One rarely hears mention of Saudi Arabia now from official circles in Washington.

But what about the U.S. special relationship with Israel? Just a short time ago, when the U.S. reacted vehemently to the "shipjacking" of the Italian cruise liner Achille Lauro, it seemed as if the U.S. had decided to re-emphasize its special relationship with Israel. Now, however, that may not be the case.

In recent weeks, Israel has been rocked by accusations of Israeli spying in the U.S. Not only was an Israeli spy arrested, at the same time as other spies were arrested who transmitted information to the Soviet Union and China, but Washington is making it clear it wants to reduce its intelligence

sharing with Israel. That suggests Washington may have decided to downgrade its special relationship with Israel as well.

The explanation for this double downgrading is the economic news. If Middle Eastern oil is no longer so vital for global energy and global price stability, then the Middle East loses importance in the priorities of U.S. foreign policy. And if U.S.-Soviet relations are improving, then Washington need no longer fear a Soviet strategic threat on the Middle East.

Furthermore, the four major Middle Eastern conflicts have gone from a boil to a simmer. The Iran-Iraq war remains stalemated. The Syrian-sponsored accords seem to be taking hold in Lebanon. No great change is in sight for the Palestinian-Israeli issue. And

as to Afghanistan, the U.S. shows signs of wanting to have it settled, even on terms favourable to the Soviet Union. Maybe we are beginning to see the implementation of that much rumoured trade-off as between Afghanistan and Nicaragua: the Soviets get their way in Afghanistan, and the U.S. in Nicaragua.

If this analysis is correct, then the U.S. and the Soviet Union... are going to pay less and less attention to the Middle East. Even if an international conference on the Palestinian issue should come to pass, neither Washington nor Moscow are going to put their full energies into it. The same seems true of the other three conflicts. Washington and Moscow are letting Syria operate in Lebanon; they have taken a hands-off attitude toward the Iran-Iraq war; and the U.S. is

doing nothing to encourage the Afghan Mujahidin even as the Soviet Union keeps its distance from Nicaragua.

Americans are into an economic and anti-political mood. Reagan senses this. People want to make money. They want no trouble, especially from foreign countries. The summit made the stock market feel good, as did the evident break-up of OPEC. The stock market may even have reacted favourably to the Israeli spy incidents, glad that, at last, Washington was freeing itself even a little from that dangerous involvement.

Maybe it is better in the end that the superpowers have decided to pull back from the Middle East. Maybe the destinies of the peoples there will now be determined by themselves and by what God has determined.

# Germans hoping for sizeable slice of SDI research

By Mark Wood

Reuter

BONN — West Germany's high-tech industries look well placed to bid for a lucrative share of President Reagan's "Star Wars" space defence research following the government's decision to seek a formal accord on joining the programme.

But aside from the lure of multi-million dollar contracts, officials and industrialists believe involvement will give an invaluable boost to Bonn's drive to secure a leading place in the march into a new technological era.

Boasting the world's most advanced research in some areas of satellite technology, lasers and optics, many high-tech concerns appear confident Washington will inevitably turn to them for help with central elements of Reagan's project.

As soon as the government announced that it would negotiate an agreement on participation, the Munich firm Messerschmitt-Boelkow-Blohm (MBB) declared it was aiming to become the main European contractor in the programme.

The U.S. ambassador to Bonn, Richard Burt, confirmed that Washington was interested in sensors developed by MBB and other German firms like Zeiss, saying they could be useful for tracking and targeting equipment in the proposed defence programme.

Official sources in Bonn said

"Star Wars" planners had also been investigating two other major German high-tech projects. One is the Spas observation satellite developed by MBB and costing around 50 million marks (\$20 million).

American space chiefs had been delighted with trials of the Spas and indicated it was ideal for use in tests on elements of the so-called Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), they said.

The other is a high-precision radar known as the Instrument Pointing System (IPS), developed by Dornier, which has also received top marks in U.S. trials.

Bonn was optimistic the Pentagon might order several of the systems, which cost 60 million marks (\$24 million) each, the sources said.

They said there were also good chances the Americans would want to buy specialised German know-how in laser technology to speed up development of the laser guns which will be a central element in the proposed anti-satellite shield.

Neither industrialists nor officials dare to put a price tag on potential U.S. investment, but most say it could run into hundreds of millions of dollars.

Industry chiefs say such sums would not only fill order books but underline and defend West Germany's gradual emergence as a high-tech power after a tardy entry into the new era of robots



and computers.

Helmut Lohr, head of the Association of Electro-Technical Industries, said the exchange of research findings within the SDI programme would bring an enormous technical boost to German firms and escalate their own development projects.

He warned that a refusal to participate would force the Americans to refine their own expertise

instead and eliminate West Germany's hard-won lead in many areas.

It was the sudden realisation that they were lagging in the high-tech race which prompted a burst of energy by the Germans in the early 1980s, and only recently have government and businesses begun to talk with pride of the results.

"We certainly woke up late to

the technological revolution," Research Ministry spokesman Gert Scharrenberg said. "We wouldn't perhaps claim to be world champions now, but we've come a long way in five years," he added.

As well as areas which may attract the gaze of SDI planners, rapid progress has been made in robotics, bio-technology and computer chips.

The unveiling of a new range multi-talented robots this year brought orders from Japanese firms which had previously never looked outside their country for such equipment.

The creation of five biotechnology research centres has made West Germany a leader efforts to design new drugs with pinpoint accuracy and new strains of disease-resistant crops.

In an effort to catch up with Japan and the United States, computers, the German concern Siemens will launch a joint project with Philips of the Netherlands, January to develop a high capacity "megachip" for the next generation of hardware.

But it is the reach into outer space which has grabbed the public imagination.

A German-funded mission, D-1, carried aboard the U.S. shuttle in October, generated nationwide enthusiasm and proclaims that the country which made the first working rockets years ago was reemerging as power in space exploration.

Scharrenberg and other officials say West Germany still has a long way to go to consolidate and build on its advances.

Many appear to believe that link-up with some of the more advanced U.S. research programmes through SDI may be key to ensuring West Germany enters the 21st century as one of the world's technological giant.

# Black militancy fuelling white fears in S. Africa

By Ruth Pichford

Reuter

JOHANNESBURG — The most relentless surge of black protest violence in South Africa's recent history is finally starting to disturb whites, kept apart from other race groups for decades by law, opposition politicians say.

Reuters calculates that unrest which began in February 1984 has claimed at least 999 lives, and that the death rate has doubled in the past few months.

The government says that unrest is abating and that sweeping powers given to the security forces under emergency laws in three densely-populated areas have been effective.

But in the townships, residents say there is a militancy among young blacks never seen before in the periodic outbreaks of violent protest against apartheid — viewed by the government as separate racial development, by blacks and the world as racial discrimination.

"One of the successes of the whole apartheid structure has been the almost total insulation of different race groups," white opposition leader Frederick van Zyl Slabbert told Reuters.

"Whites have lived largely oblivious of what is going on on the other side... but now, on the ground, there is a new communication between black and white which falls totally out of the scope of what the government is thinking of."

Black consumer boycotts of white-owned shops and a financial crisis precipitated when foreign bankers cut credit lines in August are bringing home to whites their economic inter-dependence on the blacks whom most meet only in the role of domestic servants, messengers or manual workers.

Slabbert says the one ray of hope he perceives through a cloud of gloom is that black consumer power has begun to force white businessmen to try to woo customers back to their stores by talking to black leaders the government does not recognise.

Economists told Reuters that the financial crisis cannot be solved without major reforms — unlikely to be granted — to reassure

foreign banks of the country's political stability.

They said the credit clampdown has thrown the economy, already hit by recession, into a state in which affluent white lifestyles are finally starting to suffer.

But white responses to black militancy are far from unanimous. State-run television shows little of the unrest, and many whites accuse foreign news crews of grossly exaggerating black discontent, complaining that they are tired of reassuring relatives overseas that they have seen nothing of the violence.

Some whites who watched riots spill over into the streets of Johannesburg and Cape Town express worry and confusion.

But the answer for many is still harsher action by security forces — more teargas and rubber and live bullets — to quell unrest which the government blames on criminals and agitators.

Western diplomats and opposition politicians say the government shows no signs of initiating the fundamental reforms which black political groups are demanding.

Despite promises of major ref-

orm, the government speaks of changes which diplomats and black radicals alike dismiss as at worst semantics, at best minor modifications of apartheid.

"White South Africans I speak to are far more worried than they were a few months ago, and rightly so because all the government is coming up with is clever ideas, and blacks are becoming more and more angry," one diplomatic source said.

Short of the parliamentary vote, denied to blacks, he cited the scrapping of racially-zoned living areas as one possible reform which President P.W. Botha refuses to contemplate.

Cassim Saloojee, of the main internal anti-apartheid group, the United Democratic Front (UDF), said that if black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela were released from jail and laws curbing blacks' freedom of movement were scrapped, "I don't think the world is going to come to an end."

Saloojee, freed last week after the state dropped charges of high treason against him, is a veteran anti-apartheid activist.

He told Reuters he had never before seen such unremitting mil-

itancy among township youths.

"Finally, these things do not depend on the quantity of arms at the disposal of the government, when you have a whole population alienated," he said.

Many middle-aged blacks voice resentment at "the power," the black power ideology of youths whom they accuse of using violence to enforce work stayaways and consumer boycotts.

Black parents admit they have given up trying to curb the young teenagers who refuse to go to school. The teenage chant is: "Liberation before education."

One man of 25 told Reuters he visited his troubled township recently to be urged by his mother to ask his brothers, aged 12 and 16, what they were up to. "I told her, 'You live in this house, you should know.' She said: 'I do not know.'"

"They were making petrol bombs in the house. I asked them if they were scared of the soldiers and they just laughed."

"When I was like them, sure, I went to action meetings, but then we played soccer. There is no more soccer for them, just the action."

# Gorbachev faces crucial tests in '86

By Andrew Rosenthal

The Associated Press

MOSCOW — The Soviet Union enters 1986 with a vigorous, relatively young leader. But if remains in an arms control tangle with the United States that the Geneva summit in November did not unravel.

For Mikhail S. Gorbachev, the new year brings critical tests as he seeks to consolidate the power he assumed last March as general secretary of the Communist Party.

One of his top international priorities is to continue the Kremlin's battle against U.S. President Ronald Reagan's "Star Wars" plan for a space-based, anti-missile shield.

Having failed in Geneva to win Reagan's renunciation of the plan, the Soviets are expected to continue applying pressure on the White House and on U.S. allies who may go along with it.

The Kremlin already has de-

ounced a memorandum on British participation in Star Wars, and criticised West German officials who said the British move will make it easier for German companies to join in.

The Soviets have warned that space-weapons development will make arms talks pointless, but so far they have not made direct threats to cut off the Geneva negotiations on nuclear and space weapons.

Without an arms control agreement Gorbachev's Kremlin will have to maintain a high rate of military spending that will make it harder for the new leader to achieve his domestic-policy goals.

Little has changed in the Kremlin's new year prospects around the world, with a Soviet army still embroiled in Afghanistan, and the two superpowers manoeuvring for influence in the Middle East.

The tentative rapprochement between China and the Soviet Union is expected to continue moving forward slowly.

With the 54-year-old Gorbachev in power, the Kremlin is relieved of at least one burden at home — concern over the health of its top leader.

The end of 1982 brought the Soviets their first leadership transition in 15 years, the death of Leonid I. Brezhnev and the rise of Yuri Andropov, who was already in bad health.

A year later, Andropov was dead. His successor, Konstantin Chernenko, died last March, 13 months after taking over.

A test of Gorbachev's power likely will come in February, when the Communist Party convenes its national congress. For Gorbachev to take firm control of the party apparatus, he will have to establish a solid majority on the central committee, which will be formally elected at the congress.

# Parents too need lessons from school

Dr. Sue Dahdah

WESTERN Society today has a number of ills that can be attributed to, among other things, an attitude and value change on the part of the people. The problems are evident in the schools and range from drug and alcohol abuse to murder.

These problems in the schools didn't happen overnight, but were the result of a gradual regression towards a relaxed standard of behaviour. This happened after World War II, the Korean War, and the advent of T.V. Whether these events influenced people's values is a debatable issue, but around this time of change, parents began to make excuses for their children's bad behaviour and to blame others for their children's mistakes.

It was different in the 1940's and 50's. At that time when a child misbehaved at school, parents blamed their children. They said such things as, "It was your fault." You are in school to behave and learn, so you listen to the teacher, or "If you are punished at school, you will also be punished at home." But in fear of giving children complexes and damaging their personalities, due to the popularity of psychology, we began to accept their bad behaviour and say things like, "That stupid teacher! What does she think she's doing? I'm going to school and have it out with her!"

So parents began to go to school and have confrontations with teachers and administrators, and because of a few landmark court cases involving teachers, where teachers were found guilty of abusing students' rights, teachers began to be afraid of disciplining children. As a result children got completely out of control, and now the teacher is on the lowest rung of the social and economic ladder. Many teachers in the U.S. are pathetic creatures stripped of all authority to ensure that children behave properly so that lea-

ring can occur.

I can see the beginnings of new attitudes among people here, as we should step back and examine the problem before it reaches its magnitude it has reached in some schools in the U.S. Now in Jordan some parents are beginning to believe everything their children tell them without discussing the problem with the teacher first. They are beginning to blame the teachers and to talk badly about teachers and schools in front of their children. They are beginning to complain and to write letters to the Ministry of Education bemoaning to solve things with the schools. Team work between parents and schools is becoming rare.

Maybe sometimes parents justified in taking this position against teachers and schools, suppose there are some really young, unhappy teachers who should never deal with children. Those people are few. In my experience I've found most teachers to be well-meaning and loving people.

How can we prevent Jordan from making the same mistake that were made in the U.S. which have led to serious social problems? How can we keep problems in the schools restricted to infractions like gum-chewing, talking in class and throwing paper on the floor (problems of U.S. schools in the 1940's and in U.S. schools today) from becoming serious crimes like assault, drug abuse, gang warfare and murder (problems in some U.S. schools today)?

One way to avoid these serious crimes in schools is not to go down the same path the U.S. parents went down, but to choose more sensible road where parents and teachers work together for the common good of the children.

The writer is director of the Al-Humud Shariif School in Amman.



## Mohammed Heykal set to write column again

By John Squires  
Washington Post Service

Mohammed Heykal, Egypt's most influential journalist, is expected to write a column in the semi-official daily *Al-Ahram*, Heykal is about to write for a rival paper.

The government-controlled *Al-Ahram*, Egypt's largest circulation weekly with about 1.5 million copies, announced this month that Heykal would be writing a column in the paper.

Heykal, jailed under the assassination of Anwar Sadat, Gamal Abdel Nasser's successor, remains the best known Egyptian interpreter of his country to the outside world, albeit as an author on the fringes of public life for the past 11 years.

Why would Heykal, 62, write in a paper other than *Al-Ahram*, which he edited for 17 years until 1974? *Al-Ahram* editor-in-chief, Ibrahim Nefesi, obliquely dismissed suggestions this meant a return to Nasserite Socialism.



Mohammed Heykal

"How can the return of a star writer... signal a return to the policies or symbols of a certain age?" he wrote. Any Egyptian writer was free to voice his opinions "from whatever forum he chooses."

In another government-owned newspaper, the evening *Al-Messa*, editor Samir Ragab said Egyptians did not need Heykal.

"I tell Heykal, he has provided enough evidence that he speaks a language other than that of Egyptians, although he claims otherwise, and that he will never keep up with the pace of history," Ragab wrote.

Heykal has not commented. In recent years, he has written for newspapers in Gulf Arab countries and some of his books have been best-sellers in the West.

He is in the final stages of a new book on the 1956 Suez crisis, when Nasser nationalised the Suez Canal and Britain and France, in collusion with Israel, invaded Egypt.

"Autumn of Fury," a highly critical account of Sadat's presidency from 1970 until he was shot dead in 1981, was banned in Egypt.

Heykal says he is not bitter over his arrest in 1981, when he was detained for two months with 1,600 other political opponents of the president.

In an interview with Reuters last October on the eve of the fourth anniversary of Sadat's assassination, Heykal said he wept in jail on learning that Sadat had been gunned down.

Risking arrest is part of a journalist's job, said Heykal. "In the Third World generally, if you want to do any public work, journalism, expressing a point of view, political work, you must be prepared for the idea of going to prison."

He said he had been prepared for arrest since 1974, when he was sacked from *Al-Ahram* after clashing with Sadat over the troop disengagement accord that followed the 1973 war against Israel. Heykal believed the war should continue.

He said Sadat, by linking Egypt with Israel in the 1978 U.S.-sponsored Camp David accords, had "destroyed the Arab World's great strategic assets. He dismantled all elements of Arab power... but you cannot hate him because he did it with lots of panache."

In his interview with Reuters Heykal compared Nasser, Sadat and his successor President Hosni Mubarak.

"With Nasser, there was a play and there was a script. Under Sadat there were theatrical effects but no script... no play. The problem now is that there is no script and no theatricalities also — so people are waiting and the stage is practically empty."

But Mubarak was beginning to show real confidence after a careful, difficult start, Heykal said.

## Bahrain determined to wipe out illiteracy by 2000

By Fouad Gawhari  
Reuters

BAHRAIN — Bahrain aims to make history in the Middle East by wiping out illiteracy inside 15 years.

"Our target is the year 2000," says Mohammed Abbas, director-general of the Illiteracy and Adult Education Centre.

"We'll make history then... we hope we will not have a single illiterate among our people."

Bahrain, once a pearl-diving outpost and now the main financial centre of the Gulf, already boasts one of the lowest illiteracy rates in the Arab World.

A determined education drive on the island of 360,000 has reduced the number of illiterate people to 31.3 per cent from 52.9 per cent in 1971, says Abbas.

Bahrain is investing 20 million

dinars (\$53 million) in a five-year plan to teach 26,700 people between 10 and 44 years of age to read and write.

And the government is considering powerful persuasion — a draft law requiring Bahrainis to become literate before they are eligible for jobs or promotions.

Already government departments and local business firms offer an inducement. They grant bonuses, pay rises and other incentives to holders of literacy certificates, Abbas says.

The anti-illiteracy drive is concentrated on women: the first-five year plan will take in 20,500 women and 6,200 men.

Although Bahrain pioneered female education in the region opening a girl's school back in 1928, illiteracy is still much higher among women.

This is largely because of the Arab tradition that their place is at home raising children.

They flock to classes in schools, business houses and factories for a two-year course in reading and writing the Arabic language. They are also taught religion and mathematics.

Another two-year programme is provided as a followup to the basic course to prepare students up to secondary school level.

Abbas says some people go on to university and return to become teachers in the literacy campaign.

Hundreds of other university volunteers give up their summer vacations to help the regular tutors.

The campaign has drawn an enthusiastic response in the old-established villages as well as the new satellite towns that have

sprung up around the capital Manama.

To encourage women, kindergartens have been set up for them to leave their infants while attending classes. Free transport is also provided to and from the learning centres.

Says Abbas: "Men even look after the houses while spouses are at classes, a drastic social change because this has traditionally been a woman's job."

Hassa al-Khamiri, an assistant to Abbas, says eradicating illiteracy among women is a major contribution to the progress of society.

"Can an illiterate woman look up a hospital number to call for help if her child is suddenly sick and her husband is out?" he asks.

"Can she dial the police or the fire brigade?"

## 'Heavy coffee use triples heart risks'

By Sally Squires  
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — People who drink more than five cups of coffee a day face almost three times the risk of heart disease as people who abstain from coffee, according to a long-term study by Johns Hopkins University researchers.

The new findings, presented Monday at the American Heart Association annual meeting here, suggest that heavy coffee drinkers are more likely than those who do not drink coffee to have a heart attack or suffer from heart disease such as angina pectoris, a painful condition in which the heart does not receive an adequate supply of blood.

"These results suggest that coffee drinking is an independent risk factor for heart disease," said Dr. Thomas Pearson, director of Preventive Cardiology at the university and co-author of the study.

The role that coffee plays in heart disease continues to generate debate in the scientific community. Other studies have shown no link between heart disease and coffee drinking, while a few have shown a smaller risk than in the Johns Hopkins study.

Caffeine, the stimulant in coffee, has been the focus of many of these studies. It is also found in tea, chocolate, cocoa and many soft drinks. Among physical changes caused by caffeine is its ability to irritate the heart, constrict peripheral blood vessels, and increase levels of low-density lipoproteins, a type of cholesterol associated with a higher risk of heart disease.

Dr. Pearson and his co-author, Andrea LaCroix, studied 1,337 men who graduated from the Johns Hopkins medical school between 1948 and 1964; all were 22 years old when they entered the study. Data on their coffee consumption

and smoking habits were collected at five-year intervals, making the study one of the longest continuous health investigations of Americans.

What sets this study apart from earlier research is the large number of participants, the young age at which they entered the study, the length of time they were tracked and, most importantly, the fact that only 14 per cent smoked.

Heavy coffee drinking is often associated with cigarette smoking, itself an important risk factor for heart disease. In earlier studies, this connection between coffee and cigarettes made it difficult for researchers to determine which health effect might be caused by smoking and which might be caused by drinking coffee.

Even when researchers adjusted statistically for other risk factors — age, cigarette smoking, high blood cholesterol levels and high blood pressure — heavy coffee

drinkers "had 2.5 times the risk of developing heart disease" as those who did not drink coffee, the study found.

Dr. Pearson recommended that all coffee drinkers "quit smoking, have blood cholesterol measured" and, if interested "in maintaining a prudent lifestyle," cut back coffee consumption to no more than two cups a day, as he said he and Miss LaCroix have done.

Other scientists challenged the two-cup-a-day recommendation as "premature."

"There's not enough consistent evidence," said Dr. William Kannel, former director of the Framingham Heart Study, who said he favoured following Mark Twain's advice for "moderation in all things, including moderation."

Other researchers said they are reserving judgment until they read full drafts of the paper, which has not yet been accepted by a scientific journal for publication.

## The 'roof of the world' turning green

By Wang Qingshan

FOR centuries, the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, "the roof of the world," was known as a place where "even spring wind does not reach." Now, small forests are beginning to dot the vast barren area thanks to the nationwide afforestation drive that has been going on for over thirty years.

One of them, the "Sino-Australian Friendship Forest," covering 130 hectares of land in Huangzhong county, Qinghai province, is the result of international cooperation. It was developed at the proposal of Australian ambassador to China Denis W. Argyll when he visited the northwestern province in September 1984 and donated \$17,000 for the purpose.

Planted there as a token of friendship were trees such as apricot, poplar, dragon apricot, elm and larch. Villagers there also transplanted peonies, plums and lilacs from their own gardens.

Nationwide, consistent afforestation efforts have produced more impressive results.

"Since 1949, the year the People's Republic was founded, we have afforested a total of 27.3 million hectares of land throughout the country," said the spokesman of the Ministry of Forestry. "This is the biggest afforestation effort in the world."

The afforested land, equal to half the size of France, has increased China's tree coverage from 8.6 per cent in 1949 to 12 per cent. It accounts for 20 per cent of the total afforested area in the world.

China once abounded in forests. But forest reserves were depleted by recurrent wars, fires, reclamation of land and indiscriminate felling of trees. Consequently, China's total area of forest, denuded hills and wasteland in 1949 came to 240 million hectares, one fourth of its land area.

"The government of New China has been paying great attention to afforestation to halt the denuding process," said 53-year-old Wang Jialing, a professor at the Beijing Forestry College.

"We have brought an annual average of 2.5 million hectares of land under afforestation during the five years from 1981 to 85, twice the amount in the Soviet Union and 2.7 times that in the United States," Wang said.

The 12 per cent tree coverage is very small compared with that in many other countries and our tree-covered land per capita is even smaller," Wang remarked. "We are striving to raise our forest coverage to 20 per cent by the end of this century."

"To attain the goal, we must afforest 5.6 million hectares of land annually in the next 15 years,



A shelterbelt in the desert Yulin prefecture, Shaanxi province, northwest China

assuming a 100 per cent survival rate," the professor said.

Now the survival rate of trees in large-scale afforestation in China is only 24 per cent.

Afforestation, according to the professor, is the only way to combat the advancing deserts along China's northern frontier.

"Because of over felling of trees to meet a growing demand for timber," Wang said, "China loses 120,000 hectares of farm and pasture land to drifting sand dunes a year."

A gigantic project to stem desertification has been the building of a northern shelterbelt called "the Green Great Wall." It was started in 1978 and its first phase was completed in mid-1985.

The tree belt extends 7,000 kilometres from northern Heilongjiang province in the northeast to Hainan prefecture of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region in the west, traversing more than 200 counties in 12 provinces and regions including Inner Mongolia, Shaanxi, Gansu and Ningxia. During its first phase (1980-85), a total of 5.93 million hectares of land have been planted with trees.

In the second phase, which ends in 1990, another 6.5 million hectares of trees are scheduled to be grown.

While a northern shelterbelt is being built to keep away sand storms, large-scale tree planting

on vast plains in the interior is changing the landscape, according to the Forestry Ministry spokesman.

A plan is no longer an endless stretch of land, but countless square blocks of verdant farmland formed by straight lines of tall trees. In some areas crops and trees are planted on alternative strips of land, called intercropping. This kind of tree-shelter network, which now protects about 14 million hectares of farmland, has improved the ecology on the plains and resulted in good crop harvests.

Tree planting now involves everyone in China, according to the spokesman.

"Every Chinese citizen above the age of 11, except the old, weak, sick and disabled, is required to plant three to five trees every year or contribute the same amount of labour by cultivating saplings, tending trees or doing other work connected with tree planting," he said.

In 1979 China designated March 12 as its national Tree Planting Day. On that day each year, millions of people swarm to mountain slopes, road sides and every spare piece of land to plant trees.

In May this year, China's Central Greening Committee called on the people to plant three kinds of trees: "tree of the same age," to mark a child birth; "heart-to-heart

tree," to celebrate a new marriage; and "memorial tree" to commemorate someone who has just died. Considering the country's one billion population, that will be a large number.

A measure that is bound to drastically change the landscape of China is the forestry responsibility system introduced in 1979. Under the system, barren hillsides and mountain slopes are allocated to peasant households for tree planting. Peasants are entitled to all profits coming out of the operation after paying tax and fulfilling certain obligations for the local community which owns the land. The policy has mobilised tens of millions of peasants in afforestation projects. Forests are beginning to cover vast numbers of hitherto barren mountains and hills.

To speed up afforestation, forest departments have introduced many kinds of fast-growing trees from abroad, according to Professor Wang.

"We have imported more than 200 fast-growing species, such as pinus taeda from America, I 69 and I 72 from Italy. These trees are growing well. Their establishment periods range from four to five years and their survival rates are nearly 100 per cent. But these species are only suitable for plain areas. We still lack varieties suitable for mountains," Wang

said.

"We welcome foreign enterprises to cooperate with us in this field," he said.

Afforestation has helped hold back sandstorms, promote water and soil conservation and improve conditions for farming livestock breeding, according to the Forestry Ministry spokesman.

Take the town of Yulin at the foot of the Great Wall, Yulin, capital of a prefecture of the same name in Shaanxi province, had been forced to change its site three times before 1949, because the southward advance of the Maowusu Desert had buried houses and farmland.

In the past 35 years, Yulin prefecture has brought more than 330,000 hectares of land under afforestation, increasing its forest coverage to 11.5 per cent from 0.9 per cent in 1949. As a result, many oases have emerged in the desert. The prefecture had become basically self-sufficient in food supply, its annual grain output tripling that of 1949.

With the concerted effort of the entire nation, according to the Forestry Ministry spokesman, China will be able to raise its forest coverage to 20 per cent by the end of this century. "By that time," he said, "green will be the dominant colour of China's landscape." China features.

## Africa defends itself against charges of being AIDS originator

By Jerry Gray  
The Associated Press

NAIROBI, Kenya — The suggestions that AIDS might have originated in Africa and that the disease may be rampant in parts of the continent has a lot of people — from presidents to prostitutes — worried and angry.

It has sparked raucous debates in parliaments, prompted a spate of government denials and has drawn nearly daily mention in newspaper stories, editorials and letters to the editor.

"If scientists cannot find a home for the virus, Africa is not the solution to their dilemma," Peter Nyakimbo, Kenya's Minister of Health, told parliament Nov. 21.

Nyakimbo went before the lawmakers to tell them that seven people had died of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome in Kenya and that there were 14 suspected cases.

The minister's disclosure was an indication that some African governments are starting to address the possibility of an AIDS problem after years of official denials.

In September, a six-member medical team told a government-sponsored symposium in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, that at least half of the 125 known AIDS victims in that country had died since the disease was discovered there two years ago.

A government-distributed pamphlet warns Tanzanians against homosexual contacts, sex with prostitutes and reusing syringes.

In Zaire, described as the "AIDS epicentre" of Africa, scientists from the United States, France, Belgium and the World Health Organisation are conducting the most comprehensive AIDS research on the continent, with the cooperation of the government.

Outpacing the increasing candor, however, is an anger directed toward the West and its media over the alleged African connection.

"There is an element of racism in all this," Simon Shitemi, permanent secretary in Kenya's Ministry of Health, was quoted as saying in a Nairobi newspaper.

"If the source of AIDS was Africa and one-tenth of the population are infected, why are Africans not dying in large numbers, such as is being experienced elsewhere?"

President Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya has criticised what he called lies about AIDS in his country.

The East African leader bristled at a report that said 10 per cent of his 21 million countrymen carried the AIDS virus. He condemned the report and accused unidentified "foreign elements" of spreading inaccurate stories.

Kenya, along with Burundi, Congo, Tanzania, Uganda, Zaire and Zambia, have been identified in western medical journals and media reports as part of the African "AIDS belt," an area of east and central Africa where the disease or symptoms of it have been found.

The American Medical Association reported in the November issue of its journal that as many as 15 per cent of healthy heterosexuals in central Africa may carry the AIDS virus and that prostitutes in the region should be considered a high-risk group.

A week after that report was released, researchers at the Harvard School of Public Health in the United States announced they had discovered that African green monkeys are carriers of a virus closely resembling the one believed to cause AIDS.

The researchers said the discovery supported the contention that AIDS originated in Africa and was passed from monkeys to humans — perhaps through bites or eating monkey meat.

But other medical people argue that AIDS research is still incomplete.

"There is no indication whatsoever where the disease started," Dr. Fakhry Assad, director of the World Health Organisation's division of communicable disease, said during a meeting on AIDS in October in Bangui, Central African Republic. The disease as we know it appeared here at the same time as in the United States.

AIDS was first diagnosed in the United States in 1981, but scientists believe the disease could have been present at least four years before then. The United States has the greatest number of confirmed cases of AIDS in the world, about 15,000 more than half of the victims have died.

No official estimates are available on the incidence of AIDS in Africa, because some governments still refuse to release

information on the disease within their borders. But medical officials say privately that AIDS is probably more widespread than the several hundred cases reported so far.

Real or rumoured, AIDS isn't just a health problem in Africa, but aggravates political sensitivities and threatens to scare away tourists and trade.

On Tanzania's semi-autonomous island of Zanzibar, the government has banned the distribution of secondhand clothing from abroad because officials fear the goods may promote the spread of AIDS.

In Kenya, where tourism is second only to agriculture in generating income, there is great concern over the AIDS scare.

"In New York, of all places, one tour operating agency had a group cancel because of the fear of AIDS in Kenya," said Nicola Brown, marketing director for Abercrombie and Kent, Kenya's largest tour and travel agency. A large number of U.S. AIDS cases are concentrated in New York.

Miss Brown and other tour operators said incidents like that are still rare, but of no less concern.

A visit in October by an 11-ship U.S. navy battle group to give nearly 10,000 sailors shore leave in Kenya's Indian ocean port of Mombasa provided a good illustration of the AIDS scare from both sides.

Prostitutes arrived in the thousands from as far away as Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. But untold numbers of them returned home disappointed, complaining of sailors who said they were afraid of getting AIDS.

"Some of them whispered to us that they had been warned earlier of the disease in the country and that they should not attempt to do anything," an unidentified prostitute told a Nairobi daily newspaper. "I earned peanuts compared with other times these sailors visit our shores — and all because of those false foreign newspaper reports about AIDS."

The controversy did not end there.

In the Kenya parliament, lawmaker Chibulwile W. Tsuma, who represents a Mombasa-area constituency, suggested that American sailors be screened for AIDS before being allowed to disembark at Kenyan ports.

## Dirty air in homes and offices may exceed outdoor pollution

By Donald J. Frederick  
The National Geographic Society

WASHINGTON — Retreating indoors to avoid hazy, smog-laden air may not accomplish much. Pollution inside the home can be two to five times worse than conditions outside, recent government studies show.

The main offenders are 11 chemicals found around the house in such diverse substances as cleaning agents, building materials, and paints.

"You leave a rag around that's been soaked in paint thinner, or forget to put the lid back on a cleaning-fluid can," says Dr. Wayne R. Ott of the Environmental Protection Agency. "There are countless things around the home that contribute to the problem."

Some sources are less obvious. Fresh dry cleaning, for example, emits chemical pollution. So do moth crystals and many glues.

No escape in country

Indoor chemical pollution seems almost the same in both rural and industrial areas. In the EPA studies, volunteers used monitoring devices in heavily industrialised Bayonne, N.J.; in Greensboro, N.C., a city with light industry; and in Devils Lake, N.D., a town in an agricultural region. The 11 chemicals monitored included such familiar substances as chloroform, carbon tetrachloride, benzene, and styrene. Flammable chemicals in such

products as paint thinners, varnish removers, and aerosol propellants pose an added risk. Dr. Jay A. Young, a chemical-safety consultant in Silver Spring, Md., cautions: "Never use flammable liquids in the home. Vapors can be ignited by pilot lights, static electricity, or a spark that might occur behind the cover plate when a light is turned on."

The indoor-pollution threat follows some people from home to office. Modern buildings with sealed windows are totally dependent on mechanical systems for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning, and circulation of bad air can be very harmful.

In addition to the threat from chemicals in drapes, paint, and other sources, some apartment-dwellers and office workers are exposed to carbon monoxide drifting up from underground parking garages. "Ventilation systems are sometimes faulty, intake vents are put in the wrong places, or doors are inadvertently left open, and carbon monoxide seeps through the whole building," says Ott. "It's called the hot-building syndrome."

Radon, a radioactive gas emitted by common substances such as concrete, brick, and soil, also has been singled out as a problem in both homes and office buildings.

Radon emits damaging particles. And besides the products of its decay, it contains minuscule radiation-emitting specks that can lodge in the lungs. Over many years, they can pose a cancer threat.

An EPA study says that some American homes contain hazardous levels of radon, and that it probably contributes to between 5,000 and 20,000 cases of terminal lung cancer every year.

What to do about all these unseen perils at home and at the office? Almost all the experts agree that proper ventilation is vital. "Read labels and observe the precautions," Young advises. "If at all possible, store things that can produce vapors in places outside the home such as sheds."

Ott sees the need for more research. "Knowledge is our best weapon against indoor pollution," he says. "We've got some indoor sources that could be easily corrected, if we just knew more about them."

## GERMAN SPEAKING LADIES OF JORDAN

UNSER NAECHSTES TREFFEN FINDET AM MONTAG DEN 6. JANUER VON 16.00-18.00 UHR IM HOTEL AMRA (ROOF TOP) STATT.



## Chelsea aims for top

**LONDON (R)** — Chelsea can kick off 1986 in great style Wednesday — by topping the English soccer league for the first time in more than 20 years.

They travel across the city to take on east London rivals West Ham, currently fifth in the table, in a match due to begin 3½ hours before the bulk of the new year's day holiday programme.

Victory for Chelsea, who are second two points behind Manchester United, would make them the first side to be ahead of United this season.

But their lead, if they achieve it, is likely to be brief. United, who have led since the season started in August, entertain struggling Birmingham and should reclaim the leadership with an emphatic win.

Chelsea Manager John Hollins, who started in the side when they last topped the first division on March 31, 1965, has no injury problems.

Winger Kevin McAllister has

shrugged off an ankle injury sustained in Saturday's 2-0 home win over Tottenham and Hollins has included Mike Hazard, John Bumstead and Keith Jones in a 15-man squad.

West Ham Manager John Lyall is not so fortunate. Fitness doubts remain over midfielders Alan Devonshire and Neil Orr, both hurt in last week's 1-0 defeat at Tottenham which ended West Ham's club-record equalling 18-match unbeaten run.

Devonshire's groin strain has responded to treatment and he resumed training Tuesday and is expected to be fit. But Orr, who badly jarred an ankle in the match, is rated only 50-50 and faces a late fitness test.

Deputy England goalkeeper Gary Bailey, dropped by United

boss Ron Atkinson last week before his side's visit to Newcastle was postponed, remains on the substitutes' bench against Birmingham.

Former Sunderland keeper Chris Turner takes over but United could be without Danish international Jesper Olsen, who has influenza.

Liverpool, who slipped from second to fourth in the table after drawing 1-1 at Nottingham Forest on Saturday, will be hoping midfielder Steve McMahon is fit to return against sixth-placed Sheffield Wednesday.

Striker Paul Walsh will also be looking to return, especially as Welshman Ian Rush has not scored for eight games.

Champions Everton, whose recent revival has swept them into third place, will be unchanged at Newcastle — if the St James' Park Pitch survives a late inspection.

## Wilander seeks to avenge Davis Cup loss

**WEST BERLIN (R)** — Mats Wilander of Sweden will be seeking a chance to avenge his Davis Cup final defeat by West German Boris Becker in the Young Masters tennis tournament which begins Wednesday.

Wilander, the world's number three and Becker, who is ranked six, are seeded to meet in the final of this tournament for the world's top 16 players aged 21 or under.

Sweden beat West Germany 3-2 in the Davis Cup final in Munich 10 days ago but Becker won both his singles matches. He took a brilliant four-set victory over Wilander to keep the tie alive on the final day and has two straight wins over the Swede.

Becker sprang to international prominence in the inaugural Young Masters in Birmingham, England, last year, when he beat Sweden's Stefan Edberg in the final.

## Jury names Sagacious provisional winner of Sydney-Hobart yachting classic

**HOBART (R)** — Sagacious, owned and skippered by Australian businessman Gary Appleby, was named provisional winner of the Sydney-Hobart yachting classic Tuesday after a protest by Appleby against first-place Drake's Prayer was upheld.

The protest over a pre-race "tuffing" (turning) incident involving Drake's Prayer and fellow-Australian yacht Ragamuffin also altered the provisional points scores in the Southern Cross Cup series, but did not change the top three positions.

Britain have provisionally won the five-race series with 2,225.22 points, ahead of the New Zealand B team with 1,926.24 and New South Wales, of which the Sydney-based Sagacious is a member, with 1,923.76.

The protest lifted Sagacious from second to first on corrected time, but the additional points were not quite enough for New South Wales to overhaul New Zealand B.

In 1982 American maxi yacht Nirvana crossed the line first but

lost line honours when Condor of Bermuda successfully protested over an incident in the Derwent river only miles from the finish.

The protest was the major topic here Tuesday with many yachting people believing Sagacious should not have protested about an incident in which she was not directly involved.

But Appleby said he had seen the incident between Drake's Prayer and the maxi yacht Ragamuffin that resulted in the protest and believed it had to be tested under the race rules.

"I don't feel very comfortable about winning this way. I would have liked to have won without a technicality," Appleby said.

He denied the protest had been entered only after it became clear that Drake's Prayer had beaten Sagacious into second place on corrected time.

"We would have protested even if we'd have come last in the fleet," he said.

would have to think more carefully about the rules. "To start a 600-mile race knowing you have committed an infringement and sailed along for four days in pretty dumb," Appleby said.

The sailing master aboard Sagacious, Ron Jacobs, told the protest hearing his yacht had not flown a protest flag following the incident at the start because Ragamuffin had done so.

The jury, chaired by Australian yachting federation executive director David Burton, found that Ragamuffin and Drake's Prayer were involved in a luffing incident just before the start and a crew member aboard Drake's Prayer had touched the stern pulpit on Ragamuffin.

The jury found that the contact between the yachts was minor, but could have been avoided and penalised both yachts 40 per cent of their race placings for failing to protest about each other over the incident.

## English soccer officials greet 1986 with optimism after traumatic year

**LONDON (R)** — English soccer officials enter the new year cautiously optimistic about the future of a game which suffered the most traumatic year of its history in 1985.

They believe the return of television coverage plus the beneficial effect of the World Cup finals will boost attendances which slumped following the tragedies at Brussels and Bradford last May.

After a quiet start to the season on the terraces they also hope the "English disease" of soccer hooliganism has finally been contained, if not cured.

They feel that could lead to UEFA, European soccer's governing body, lifting the indefinite ban on English clubs imposed after 39 died following riots at the European Cup final in Brussels.

But many in the game believe this optimism is ill-founded.

"Football is at its lowest ebb. It will never survive if it doesn't get itself together. The game has never been more divided," Wat-

ford chairman, rock star Elton John, said recently.

The doubters maintain soccer's position as England's premier sport is threatened, the problem of hooliganism is far from solved and it is only a matter of time before a league club goes bankrupt.

### Swansea first to go

The first to go could be Swansea. The third division side, who topped the first division at Christmas four years ago, have debts of around \$2 million and until Jan. 13 to find a permanent solution to their financial plight.

But the league's financial malaise goes much deeper than Swansea and Wolves, who have also been regular visitors to the courts as their debts mounted up.

"There are half a dozen other league clubs who could soon follow Swansea into oblivion," Gordon Taylor, spokesman for the players' union, believes.

First division Birmingham have

been bailed out of debts of \$3 million by a scrap metal dealer while once-mighty Leeds United have been forced to sell their ground to help pay bills.

Under half the league's 92 clubs trade at a profit and many small-town sides, with attendances of just 2,000, can no longer afford to run a team of full-time professionals.

These small clubs have been particularly hit by government demands that dilapidated stadiums be improved following the fire at Bradford which killed more than 50 spectators.

The larger sides have suffered most from the sharp fall in attendances and the lack of television coverage has also cut back sponsorship and advertising income.

Tottenham, one of soccer's elite, recently shelved plans to build a new \$5 million grandstand because of the game's problems.

"If you are to spend, you have to be sure of the demand. At the moment that demand is not there. The game as we know it is bleeding to death," Tottenham's Chairman Paul Bobroff said.

Soccer chiefs hope the return of soccer to television screens on Sunday after 11 months of arguing between the broadcasting companies and the league will entice fans back to the stadiums.

But armchair fans have switched their allegiance to other sports and winter's dampening effect on the standard of soccer may well persuade them to stay at home rather than brave the cold, wet terraces.

The shame of Brussels finally forced the British government to take a stand against the hooligans who have pillaged European cities from Rotterdam to Rome since the early 1970s.

Tough court sentences, the increased police presence and the widespread introduction of close-circuit television has meant trouble on the terraces has been

restricted, on the whole, to a handful of skirmishes this season.

But police chiefs fear the return of television cameras may bring the hooligans back out of the closet as the trouble on the terraces appears to feed off nationwide publicity.

UEFA will need reassurance that hooliganism is under control before allowing English fans back into continental Europe.

Good behaviour by the handful of fans who travel to the World Cup in Mexico could provide this reassurance, and travel companies and soccer officials are already discussing ways of weeding out any potential troublemakers.

### Mexico performance vital

All sides agree England's performance in Mexico, both on and off the pitch, will be vital to the immediate future of the game in this country.

An exciting run could have the same impact on attendances as the World Cup victory in 1966, but dismal failure could have dire consequences.

"What the game needs is England to win the World Cup — but if we do badly it will be disastrous," Elton John says.

"It is an awful responsibility to put on (manager) Bobby Robson's shoulders, but it is the most important World Cup England have ever played in. I pray we win it," he added.

## TIME MAN OF YEAR



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Full details of the admission procedure, and application forms, are available from the school between 8.30 a.m. and 3 p.m. from Jan. 4-21 and Feb. 4-19.

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Jordan Times

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## THE WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Estenson

### BODY LANGUAGE

By Diane C. Baldwin

### ACROSS

1. Botheration

2. John or Sebastian

3. Sounds of

4. Rank

5. Turtledove

6. Antilles

7. Wall and Easy

8. Restaurant patron

9. Virtue

10. Dignified

11. Sincere

12. Directed

13. Inheritance

14. Key

15. Bone comb

16. On — with

17. Husband of

18. Caliber

19. Bugaboo

20. Female ruff

21. Highlights of

22. Sir Humphry

23. A Kennedy

24. Shuck!

25. Mount the

26. Pit

27. Train sections

28. Reluctant

29. Venus's

30. Spokes

31. Thimble

32. Swivel river

33. Cry's partner

34. Night noise

35. Tied

36. Dutch commune

37. No. 1

38. Husband of

39. Ruth

40. River real estate

41. Agate

42. Sift a

43. Work unit

44. Precarious

45. Bombards

46. Little in

47. Tox. Irish

48. Whetted

49. Vestibule

50. Young horse

51. Dear cut

52. Paint solvent

53. Jewels term

54. At the right

55. The Old

56. Thorough

57. Follow

58. Cold war

59. Golfers Sam

60. Speedy

61. Without

62. Spurs

63. Wholeness

64. Jewels term

65. Tree of warm

66. Sneers

67. Bromide

68. Spindle

69. Residence

70. Bargain events

71. Porch

72. Not a seed

73. River to the

74. Missouri

75. Contended

76. Not C.O.D.

77. Lash lamp

78. Spar

79. Primer

80. Anticipates

81. Farthest

82. Criminal

83. Jewels term

84. Tree of warm

85. Sewing notion

86. Henry or Jane

87. Plow both

88. Aquatic bird

89. Solar disc

90. Not a seed

91. "King and I"

92. Character

93. Jewels term

94. Numerical

95. Profile

96. Contended

97. Sounds

98. Spotted carry

99. Sp. river

100. "Pick —"

101. Imaginative

102. Order

103. Piggery

104. Adverb

105. Winner's word

106. Pitting

107. Potential

108. Crushing blow

109. Small branch

110. Inspect

111. Pterodactyl?

112. Casual or

113. Aunt: Fr.

114. Inventor

115. Nikols

116. Correct

117. Church

118. Abbr.

119. Left type

120. Simian

121. Seen

122. Mitten

123. Battery

124. Newspaper

125. Official

126. Ball

127. Correct

128. Church

129. Abbr.

130. Left type

131. Simian

132. Seen







# Winnie Mandela freed on bail after arrest for defying ban

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Black nationalist leader Winnie Mandela, arrested Monday as she drove to her home in Johannesburg's black township of Soweto, was freed on bail Tuesday and ordered to abide by a government order curbing her movements.

Mr. Mandela, wife of the jailed guerrilla leader Nelson Mandela, is barred from the Johannesburg area.

At her court hearing magistrate Chris Eksteen set bail at 500 rand (\$200).

Family members have said that Mrs. Mandela, a black leader in her own right, would ignore the order.

After she was arrested Monday, her daughter Zindzi told reporters: "The most important thing to remember is that (Soweto) is her home. She is banned under laws she does not recognise."

No charges were put to Mandela at a court in Krugersdorp near Johannesburg. She appeared in a Johannesburg court on Dec. 23 accused of breaking the banning order and is due to reappear

in that case on Jan. 22.

Mrs. Mandela, who has repeatedly defied government attempts to silence her and keep her out of Soweto, was arrested after she arrived in Johannesburg by air from Cape Town and drove towards Soweto.

Nelson Mandela, still acknowledged leader of the outlawed African National Congress (ANC) guerrilla group which is fighting to topple white rule by force, has been in jail in Cape Town since 1962 and is serving a life sentence.

South Africa's biggest multi-racial internal opposition group, the United Democratic Front (UDF), said in a statement that anti-apartheid violence would increase next year.

More than 1,000 people have died since February 1984 in protests blamed on grievances blacks feel under Pretoria's system of racial segregation.

The UDF, which has about two million members in affiliated organisations, said: "With strong organisation ... and the discipline of our membership and supporters, the struggle of our masses will intensify in every region and every sector."

Meanwhile a leader of the outlawed African National Congress (ANC) calling South Africa a "powder keg with a short fuse," vowed Tuesday that his rebels will escalate its armed attacks.

A "racial bloodbath" can be avoided only if the ANC intensifies its armed struggle against the white-dominated government, said Johnstone Makatini, director of the group's international department.

He told the United News of India that the organisation was stepping up its attacks.

"We hit military targets, power installations and nuclear plants but stay clear of civilian targets," said Mr. Makatini, who was attending the 100th anniversary of Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's governing Congress Party.

He said ANC fighters operate from mountains and jungles within South Africa, not from bases outside the country.

Mr. Makatini said militant blacks were "vigorously implementing the ANC's programme to make the apartheid system unworkable and the country ungovernable."

Clergy and businessmen, who earlier supported the government, now openly back the ANC's struggle and are playing a positive role in fighting the "chaos" of the white government," he said.

Mr. Makatini described church support by repeating Bishop Desmond Tutu's words: "I will not take up the gun myself but I will pray for others who take up the gun to fight apartheid."

## Sikh gunmen kill 2 in Punjab

NEW DELHI (R) — Sikh extremists shot dead two people in Punjab ending a three-day break in violence in the north west state, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said Tuesday.

Gunmen fired at the unidentified victims who were riding a moped in Batala, near the Sikh holy city of Amritsar, Monday night, the news agency said.

Nearly 50 people have died since October in attacks by militants fighting for a separate Sikh nation in Punjab.

Tension has been high in the prosperous state since Hindu-Sikh riots flared on Dec. 24 in Gurdaspur town.

Right-wing Hindus called a state-wide strike to protest against the riots which left one person dead and many injured. An indefinite curfew clamped on Gurdaspur has since been relaxed.

Extremists shot dead a man in Ferozpur district near the border with Pakistan last Thursday and injured a Hindu shopkeeper in Amritsar.

Four Sikh temple guards were killed in a fight with guns, spears and swords on Friday. The guards, known as Nihangs, argued over who would lead a religious procession at Fatehgarh in southern Punjab's Patiala district. Three died on the spot and one later in hospital.

New Delhi's police commissioner warned the public Tuesday to be on their guard against extremists attacks in the capital in the near future.

Commissioner Ved Marwah said the threat of "terrorist" attacks could not be ruled out.

About 80 people died in May in a wave of Sikh extremist bombings in New Delhi. Several politicians have also been assassinated here this year.

Meanwhile Indian columnist G.K. Reddy said Tuesday Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has put off trips scheduled in February to Australia and New Zealand in order to concentrate on domestic problems.

Reddy wrote in the Hindu newspaper that Mr. Gandhi had also cancelled trips in the summer of 1986 to several Latin American countries.

Spokesman for India's External Affairs Ministry and the Australian High Commission in New Delhi were not immediately available to comment on the report.

Reddy said: "The New Year will be marked by a gradual shift of the focus from excessive preoccupation with foreign affairs to more important domestic issues."

Mr. Gandhi has travelled abroad frequently during his first year in office, drawing sharp criticism from opposition politicians.

## Observers leave for Mali-Burkina border

ABIDJAN (R) — An observer force drawn from eight West African states left the Ivory Coast Tuesday to police a ceasefire in the war between the landlocked countries of Burkina Faso and Mali.

The truce signed Monday followed five days of fighting over a disputed border strip reputed to be rich in minerals and natural gas. Libya, which with Nigeria had promoted an earlier ceasefire, was not included in the observer force. Diplomatic sources said moderate West African states had balked at the idea of Libyan troops patrolling the disputed zone.

The agreement instead gave the job to ANAD, the non-aggression and defence aid pact which links Burkina Faso, Mali and other French-speaking states in the region.

A new row erupted between ANAD and Libyan Foreign Minister Ali Abdul Salam Al Tureiki over who could claim credit for the agreement.

Mr. Tureiki, who had been shuttling between the Malian and Burkinabe capitals, said in Bamako Monday: "The success we have just scored is a victory for Africa which shows it is capable of solving its own problems."

In an indirect rebuke, Ivory Coast Foreign Minister Simeon Ake, who presided over the ANAD efforts to bring the warring sides together, sharply criticised attempts to belittle

ANAD's role in achieving a ceasefire.

The ANAD agreement makes no mention of Libyan participation in an observer force charged with monitoring the ceasefire, to comprise two officers from each ANAD country and Benin, which has observer status.

Most ANAD member countries are led by pro-Western conservative governments, and diplomatic sources said they did not want Libyans on the Burkina Faso-Mali border.

ANAD comprises Mali, Ivory Coast, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Togo and Burkina Faso, which has close Libyan relations.

There were no further reports of fighting Monday, nor any official word on the death toll from the five days of warfare in the isolated and arid border zone, reputed to be rich in minerals and natural gas.

Confusion over who should be credited with ending the hostilities arose Sunday when Burkina Faso and Mali said they had accepted a rival Libyan and Nigerian-sponsored ceasefire, with these countries both participating in a military observer force.

But diplomatic sources reported objections from moderate West African states at the idea of Libyans patrolling the disputed zone, and a separate pact was hammered out between ANAD states.

## Freed Australians arrive in India from Afghanistan

NEW DELHI (R) — An Australian couple kidnapped in Pakistan last May by tribesmen and later taken to Afghanistan arrived in New Delhi Tuesday from Kabul to end their seven-month ordeal.

Afghan authorities released Robert Williamson, 34, and his wife, Jennifer Lade 32, on Dec. 27 but they were unable to leave Kabul until Tuesday because the airport was snowed in.

Australian High Commission (embassy) officials met the couple when they arrived at Delhi on an Indian airliner.

The two were in good health after their captivity which began on May 19 when they were kidnapped outside Quetta, capital of

Pakistan's Baluchistan province. Williamson and his wife lived in Quetta where he worked on a water project financed by the World Bank and the U.N.

The Williamsons were seized by Sasooli Baluch tribesmen seeking the release of their chief, Allah Gul Sasooli who was then serving a jail term for kidnapping. He was released near the end of his five-year sentence in September.

The couple were later taken to Kabul by Afghan authorities who charged they had entered the country illegally. They were released after representations by United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

## China threatens to sack top government officials

PEKING (R) — Communist Party chiefs have threatened to sack top government officials for abuse of power, corruption, extravagance, and "empty talk," the New China News Agency said Tuesday.

It quoted a warning issued by the party's Central Committee that "unhealthy tendencies" which have spread throughout China came mainly from central government departments.

It listed misuse of public money on domestic and foreign tours, abuse of power for personal gain, corruption, wanting flashy cars and "empty talk."

"Listless and irresponsible central party and government functionaries and senior bureaucrats face dismissal from office," with additional punishment in the most serious cases, the committee said.

## Junejo to draw post-martial law policies

ISLAMABAD (R) — Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo took his government from the military's shadow Tuesday as Pakistan emerged from its longest period of martial law.

Mr. Junejo, elected to the National assembly under martial law and chosen prime minister by Gen. Mohammad Zia ul Haq, has kept a low profile until now and evaded most questions about his political plans.

But the soft-spoken landowner from Sind will now be pushed into the limelight as Gen. Zia, who is staying on as president and chief of army staff, retreats to a role above day-to-day politics.

Gen. Zia Monday ended eight and a half years of martial law, restored the constitution in full and urged politicians both inside and outside the civilian parliament to give Mr. Junejo's government a chance.

"The successor government is a decent government led by Mohammad Khan Junejo, a veteran politician and a gentleman," Gen. Zia told a joint session of parliament in his long-awaited speech.

Mr. Junejo's cabinet formally resigned Monday night to enable him to choose a new team.

Political sources said key cabinet figures like Finance Minister Mahbubul Haq and Foreign Minister Shahabuddin Yaqub Khan were sure to figure in the new cabinet.

One member, Railways Minister Abdul Ghafoor Khan Hoti, will leave to become one of the four civilian provincial governors Gen. Zia named on Sunday night.

One of the few issues on which Mr. Junejo has clearly differed with Gen. Zia is the revival of political parties.

Gen. Zia believes Islam forbids parties since they foster divisions among Muslims while Mr. Junejo, long a member of the Muslim League which championed the creation of Pakistan, wants them legalised.

Mr. Junejo will take over the Muslim League, now led by a Sindhi religious leader, the Pir of Pagaro, and the chief ministers in each of the four provinces will be

the local heads, the government daily Pakistan Times reported Monday.

Asked by Reuters Monday if he thought Gen. Zia's decision to stay at the head of the army would be harmful to the development of democracy in Pakistan, Mr. Junejo said: "I haven't spoken to him on the subject."

Pakistan's military courts sentenced three men to death and 10 people were publicly flogged 10 hours before the tribunals were abolished with the lifting of martial law, newspapers said Tuesday.

The courts also sentenced at least four men to life imprisonment and one to 14 years' hard labour. Most of the punishments were for murder, robbery and illegal possession of weapons.

Newspapers said more than 200 people were sentenced this month.

Unfinished cases will be transferred to civil courts but there is no appeal against decisions by the military tribunals.

## Afghan rebel rockets hit Soviet embassy in Kabul

ISLAMABAD (R) — Rebel rockets hit the Soviet embassy and a Soviet-built housing project in snow-bound Kabul last week on the sixth anniversary of Moscow's intervention in Afghanistan. Western diplomats said in Islamabad Tuesday.

Several rockets landed in the embassy compound in western Kabul but caused no visible damage, they said, quoting the first reports they have received on the Dec. 27 anniversary.

The diplomats said rockets fell almost every night last week on the Darulaman area, where the Soviet embassy, the Afghan Defence Ministry and an army base are all located.

The Mikroyon Housing Complex in eastern Kabul, home to many Soviet and Afghan Communist officials, also came under

attack last Friday night, they said without giving further details.

But one diplomat said: "For the third year running, most of the city was basically quiet for the anniversary."

Peshawar-based rebels said last Sunday their forces had killed at least 21 Soviet soldiers in attacks on five main targets around the capital in a three-hour rocket barrage. The diplomats could not confirm any deaths.

The guerrillas said they carried out the attacks to protest against the presence of about 115,000 Soviet troops in Afghanistan. Moscow sent its forces there on Dec. 27, 1979, to help install Babrak Karmal at the head of a faltering Communist government.

The envoys said heavy snow and increasingly effective security perimeters around the capital apparently blunted the rebel attacks. Street patrols were actually relaxed just before the anniversary.

The diplomats had no information on other attacks reported by the Peshawar-based rebels who said Communist troops were killed at Khairkhana, a Soviet base in northern Kabul, and at the Afghan army's 8th Division headquarters north west of the capital.

For most of the past week, they said, Soviet and Afghan forces shelled possible rebel hideouts in villages to the north and south of the capital to keep guerrillas at a distance.

In Western Afghanistan, rebels attacked the main Soviet garrison at Herat on Dec. 20, the diplomats said. Soviet forces hit back, killing eight guerrillas and capturing sev-



## Brothel owner gets life sentence for fire deaths

BANGKOK (R) — A Thai court has jailed for life the owner of a brothel where five prostitutes kept locked in chains behind bars were killed by a fire. Court officials said Tuesday two pimps were also sentenced to 21 years and 10 years imprisonment on the same charges and the owner's wife to three years.

Leng Tian-Ngarm was found guilty of false imprisonment, procuring women for prostitution and causing death to others at the brothel in southern Phuket province which caught fire last year.

## James Brodin seeks divorce

LOS ANGELES (R) — James Brodin, star of the film *Amityville Horror* and the television series *Hotel*, has sued his wife of 20 years, Jane Agee Brodin, for divorce. Brodin, 45, who cited irreconcilable differences — all that is necessary under California law — asked for custody of the couple's two sons, Josh, 17, and Jean, 13. The actor, in a petition filed Monday in Los Angeles superior court, said he and his wife separated in February, 1984. Brodin played Dr. Steve Kiley in 180 episodes of the television series *Marquis Welby*, M.D. starring Robert Young.

## Big Ben looks splendid again

LONDON (AP) — Britain's most famous landmark, the Big Ben clock tower, is back in full view after being obscured by scaffolding for more than two years for a thorough scrubbing and restoration. The scrubbing reveals the 320-foot-tall (97-metre) neo-Gothic tower to be the warm tan colour of its Yorkshire limestone instead of the former sooty black, and the restoration has applied new gold leaf to brighten the 30-foot-diameter clock faces on each side of the tower.

## 10 most inspiring people of 1985 chosen

WASHINGTON (AP) — Describing his choices as "heroes for our time," a private group has announced its list of the year's 10 "most inspiring people." The Millennium Society said the 10, ranging from Mother Theresa to baseball player Pete Rose, will be invited to the celebration it plans at the Great Pyramids in Egypt on New Year's Eve 1999, when it plans to celebrate the coming of the third millennium. Those named included: Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping, "for his faith in young people"; Irish rock musician and philanthropist Bob Geldof; Nobel Prize winner Mother Theresa; Titanic explorer Robert Ballard; and Uli Derickson, purser on the TWA jet hijacked to Beirut, "for grace under pressure." Also Soviet chess champion Gary Kasparov; baseball player Pete Rose, "for his unflinching sportsmanship"; South African dissident leader Winnie Mandela; entertainer Bob Hope; and Ebelia Gasca Rosas, an infant survivor of the Mexico City earthquake selected "for the miracle amid the ruins."

## Sick cosmonaut appears at Kremlin

MOSCOW (R) — A Soviet cosmonaut whose illness forced the premature return of a mission to the Salyut-7 space station after 65 days appeared at a televised Kremlin ceremony after spending a month in hospital. Vladimir Vasyutin, 33, was shown with two fellow-cosmonauts receiving the Order of Lenin from President Andrei Gromyko. The nature of his illness has not been revealed.

## Castro gives up cigars, coffee

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — Cuban leader Fidel Castro says he has given up his famed Havana cigars and coffee "to set an example for the Cuban people," because they are bad for his health. Castro gave a 2 and 1/2-hour television interview, his first since media appearance in Brazil more than 20 years. The smoking issue came up when television commentator Roberto d'Avila, of the commercial Manchete Network, asked Castro why he had not smoked one of his fat Havana cigars.

## New defection hits Marcos party

MANILA, Philippines (Agencies) — A Filipino provincial governor quit President Ferdinand Marcos' ruling party Tuesday and threw his support to opposition presidential candidate Corason Aquino in the second defection by an elected official in a week.

Governor Carlos Fortich of the Mindanao Island province of Bukidnon, 800 kilometres south east of Manila, told Mr. Marcos in a publicly released letter that he was resigning from the New Society Party and joining the opposition because Mr. Marcos' party no longer represents the Filipinos' interests.

"Our people and your office have drifted farther and farther apart from each other ... now the crescendo of their complaints has reached thunderous proportions, and I would be remiss in my oath of fidelity to the public trust were I to remain unmindful of the rising tide of popular feeling clamouring for change," Mr. Fortich said.

Governor Felicisimo San Luis, of Laguna province near Manila, quit Mr. Marcos' party on Dec. 24 and also joined Mrs. Aquino's party, the opposition coalition United Nationalist Democratic Organisation.

Mr. Fortich has been governor of Bukidnon province since 1971. Opposition party officials, in a statement, welcomed his entry into the party and noted that Bukidnon has a voting population of 300,000 people.

Meanwhile a provincial military commander and four of his men were killed in an ambush by suspected Communist guerrillas in the northern Philippines, the military said Sunday.

A spokesman said another soldier was missing after Monday's ambush near Banaue, 240 kilometres north of Manila. The dead officer, Lt-Col. Juanito Flores, had taken over only five months ago as commander in Ifugao province.

## Aruba takes first step towards independence

ORANJESTAD, Aruba (R) — The tiny Dutch Caribbean colony of Aruba, which depends almost entirely on tourism for its economic survival, takes a major step Wednesday on the road to independence.

But the process promises to be a difficult one, and many analysts are doubtful about its viability as a nation state.

On Jan. 1, the arid, beach-fringed island will quit the Netherlands Antilles, a self-governing federation of six Dutch Caribbean islands, to take full control of its domestic affairs in the first move on a 10-year plan leading to independence.

The so-called "status aparte" (separate status) will give stronger powers to Aruba's existing parliament and the island's 67,000 residents will acquire a separate currency and police force from the rest of the Netherlands Antilles.

But the Hague will remain responsible for defence and foreign policy until the island 30 kilometres off western Venezuela gains full independence in 1996.

Few Arubans will be sorry to break links with the Netherlands Antilles, where they have always felt dominated by the neighbouring and more populous island of Curacao.

The huge oil refinery which assured Aruba's prosperity for half a century closed down in March, plunging the island into economic crisis.

Several hundred people have already emigrated, seeing no future in the cactus-covered island where all food is imported and drinking water is distilled from the sea.

Only tourism remains to prevent an economic collapse, although there are hopes that some industry and a container transshipment trade can be developed.

A dozen luxury hotels, catering mainly for U.S. tourists, are stretched out along 10 kilometres of white sandy beach on Aruba's west coast.

Henny Eman, whose four-party centrist coalition ousted Aruba's veteran leader Betico Croes's centre-right People's Electoral Movement in an election on Nov. 22, is set to take over the reins when the island's new prime minister is officially installed Jan. 1.

Mr. Croes was the main architect of Aruba's independence, negotiated with the Dutch government at a constitutional conference in 1983. But his failure to prepare for the economic shock caused by the closure of Exxon's oil refinery at the southern tip of the island sparked a loss of public confidence.

The government charged Monday that the NRA had not opened the roads leading to Masaka, Mbarara, Kasese and Fort Portal in the south west as it had agreed in the peace accord.

And the government said that on Dec. 2, 800 NRA men had attacked government forces at Kabasanda, about 43 kilometres south of Kampala. The government statement did not mention casualties or give details.

The peace agreement also called for an observer force composed of British, Canadian, Kenyan and Tanzanian troops.

Great Britain has since ruled out such a role and Canadian officials said they were considering the idea, but seemed reluctant to commit troops.

Tanzania has said it is willing to help, but only Kenya has actually sent troops in, a reconnaissance team that arrived on Dec. 22 to prepare the way for the observer forces.

## Dhaka University official threatens to resign

DHAKA (R) — The vice-chancellor of Bangladesh's Dhaka University Tuesday threatened to resign and accused a political leader of trying to intimidate him over a police raid on the campus which netted illegal arms and led to student arrests.

"Resignation is the only option, left when everybody tries to browbeat me for his or her political gains," Mr. Shamsul Haque told reporters.

Some students tried to burn down his home and ransacked his office Monday after police raided the university's Motin Hall and seized four pistols and a submachine-gun.

Police arrested 13 people, including eight students who said they belonged to the students' wing of the opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP).

Mr. Haque said he had telephoned BNP leader Begum Khaleida Zia Monday night to inform her of the incident but "received only scolding, rather than sympathy."

He added: "She peremptorily asked me to go to the police station and get the boys released."

Mr. Haque said he had called a meeting of the syndicate, the university's main executive and

policy-making body, to review the situation.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh authorities sacked nine strike leaders and clamped a news blackout on a 10-day-old stoppage by 40,000 government professionals, threatening stern action if they did not return to work immediately.

The nine were sacked for leading doctors, engineers and agricultural researchers on an indefinite strike from Dec. 22 to back demands for higher status and pay.

The stoppage has closed hospitals and affected power supplies and telephone service. At least 25 patients have died due to lack of treatment, according to government officials.

Newspapers were asked by the Press Information Department not to print any news about the strike.

A government statement said stern action under martial law would follow if the strikers did not return to work at once.

Strike leader Mirza Abdul Jalil, who has gone into hiding to avoid arrest, told Reuters by telephone the professionals would carry on their stoppage until their demands were met.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
AND OMAR SHARIF  
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DEAR MR. GOREN

Q.—Partner opened the bidding with one heart and I held:

♠A Q 5 4 2 7 8 ♠AK 6 ♠A 10 4

I jump shifted to two spades and we ended up in all sorts of trouble. My partner didn't like my bid, but surely with 17 HCP and a singleton my jump was textbook? Would you have responded differently? J.A.R., Hartford, CT.

A.—Once upon a time, you jump shifted on any hand where you had the required point count of 19, including distribution. By those rules, your hand definitely would qualify for a jump suit.

However, players began to realize that strength alone was not enough for a jump shift—you needed to know where you were going to play the hand. If you made a jump shift on hands where you have to probe for the best spot, you were simply wasting your own bidding space.

The modern tendency is to jump shift only when you hold one of two types of hand: 1) Hands where you have a self-sustaining suit and can play in it regardless of partner's lack of support; or 2) Two-suited hands that have a good fit for opener's suit. Points are of secondary importance.

By these standards your hand does not qualify for a jump shift. You first response should be one

spade. You can jump on a later round to show your strength.

Q.—In your computer program "Charles Goren: Learning Bridge Made Easy," you teach five-card major opening bids. However, your books still teach four-card majors. Why is that? M.L. Houston, TX.

A.—The last edition of "Goren's Bridge Complete," which was published about a year before our computer course appeared, already recognized the drift toward five-card major opening bids by including a chapter on opening with five-card major suits. The next edition, due in the fall, has been completely revised as a five-card major textbook. *Sic transit gloria mundi.*

It would be foolish to ignore what most instructors are teaching and what more and more players are playing. Our aim is to provide the public with a complete guide to a simple, yet effective five-card major system.

Q.—How many bridge players are there in the U.S.? G.M., Atlanta, GA.

A.—My own guess would have been somewhere between 8 and 10 million. However, a recent survey conducted by ESPN claims that there are almost 18 million. I hope they are right!